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Dry Bones



Knesset Committee's visit to Orient House causes furor

BILL HUTMAN

KNESSET Interior Committee Chairman Sallah Tarif sparked a political uproar yesterday...

Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert declined an invitation to attend the meeting with Faisal Hussein...

However, Matiyahu Huta, the Interior Ministry official responsible for the Jerusalem area...

MKs Micha Goldman (Labor), Rafi Etul (Labor), and Tawfik Khatib (United Arab List) also attended...

The committee members also visited the office of Palestinian Council member Hattem Abdel Khader...

Tarif said the visits were necessary to examine the needs of Jerusalem Arabs.

Committee members Benny Elon (Molodet), Avraham Stern (National Religious Party), and Ze'ev Boim (Likud)...

"We call on representatives from all over the world not to visit Orient House, and then look what we ourselves do," Stern said.

Committee member David Re'em (Likud) demanded that Tarif be removed as committee chairman.

Elon demanded Jerusalem police chief Cmdr. Arye Amit, who came to the scene, provide him with protection inside Orient House.

"You know and I know that the Orient House is extrajurisdictional, that you aren't allowed inside here," Elon called out to Amit.

"You can go inside if you want; there's no danger," Amit responded, and then added, "Don't try to



Speaking to the media outside Orient House yesterday are (from left) Knesset Interior Committee chairman Sallah Tarif, Faisal Hussein and MK Rafi Elul.

drag me into a political argument." Tarif, at a press conference at the end of the meeting...

Among the issues raised were complaints from Arabs that they are being prevented from building, problems with schools, and the Interior Ministry's policy of revoking the identity cards of Arab residents who move abroad.

Participants said "diplomatic" issues were not discussed, except for a brief statement made by Hussein at the start of the meeting...

"There is no parallel," Tarif said. "They are representatives of foreign countries... It is our job to carry out such meetings."

"I see this meeting like any other one we may have with a committee representing a specific community," Tarif said.

Levy reiterates warning to EU not to visit Orient House, Page 2

Attorney-general to indict Olmert

EVELYN GORDON

ATTORNEY-GENERAL Michael Ben-Yair is going ahead with plans to indict Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert...

The draft indictment charges Olmert with aggravated fraud, falsifying corporate documents, two violations of the tax code, and violating the Party Funding Law...

According to the draft indictment, Olmert told Yona Peled - one of the heads of a non-profit organization doing fund-raising for the party - to solicit money from businesses...

This scheme violated the law in two ways. First, campaign contributions from businesses are illegal. Second, the fictitious receipts enabled the companies to take tax deductions for the donations...

Olmert also omitted this sum from the report he later filed with State Comptroller Miriam Ben-Porat, thereby deceiving her into giving the party a clean bill of health for its finances.

Peled and eight others involved in the affair, including Olmert's co-treasurer, Menahem Atzmon, were indicted in 1991.

He could have been indicted once the court had finished hearing the evidence, but at that point Ben-Yair decided it made more sense to wait for the verdict...

the court had finished hearing the evidence, but at that point Ben-Yair decided it made more sense to wait for the verdict...

The Tel Aviv District Court finally issued its guilty verdict this March, and three months later, Ben-Yair decided to indict Olmert.

According to Ben-Yair, the main argument raised by Olmert's lawyer, Yigal Arnon, at the hearing was that most of the witnesses against Olmert were unreliable...

"Olmert should be indicted just like his co-treasurer and subordinates, who were convicted," Ben-Yair said in a press statement.

Before he can indict Olmert, who is still a sitting Likud MK, Ben-Yair will have to ask the Knesset to lift his parliamentary immunity.

The Knesset will presumably begin discussing the request as soon as it reconvenes after the holidays.

Arnon told Israel Radio last night that he will recommend that Olmert not agree to have his immunity lifted nor suspend himself from his mayoral post...

INSIDE EIGHT PAGES FROM SUNDAY'S The New York Times WEEKLY REVIEW

PA confirms Bank Leumi gas tax account DAVID MAKOVSKY

THE Palestinian Authority has acknowledged that its gas tax revenues are being refunded by Israel into a Bank Leumi account operating outside of the PA budget.

As first disclosed last week by The Jerusalem Post, upon the request of PA leader Yasser Arafat in mid-1994, Israel has deposited close to NIS 200 million in Palestinian gas taxes over the last two years in a Bank Leumi account in a Tel Aviv branch for Arafat's discretionary use.

Officials say a signatory on the account is Khalid Sahaam, otherwise known as Mohammed Rashid, who is Arafat's financial adviser. Last week, a PA spokesman denied to wire services that a Bank Leumi account existed.

However, page three of a document about the PA's financial situation signed by the PA Finance Ministry and distributed by the PA to all donor countries at their meeting in Washington last Thursday, says: "The PA is also considering integrating the petroleum excise account at Bank Leumi, as well as the excise tax account in the West Bank, into the Ministry of Finance's budgetary operations."

The wording clearly suggests that there is a second nonbudgeted account in the West Bank, but details could not be confirmed.

While the report says it is "considering" consolidating the account into PA budgeting, it makes no commitment to do so, even though the report says the "centralization" of accounts is a PA priority.

The PA Finance Ministry report files in the face of World Bank officials who anonymously claimed last week that the account is actually Arafat's personal money, since the report plainly states that the money in question is tax revenue transferred by Israel.

With the exception of gas taxes, health and income taxes collected from Palestinians to the PA budget as part of the April 1994 Paris agreement.

The diversion of the gas taxes is assumed to have been approved by Yitzhak Rabin and Shimon Peres.

PM will ask Clinton to send message to Damascus DAVID MAKOVSKY

DURING their meeting today, Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu wants to persuade US President Bill Clinton to make it clear to Damascus that any verbal or unsigned understandings reached with Syria by the Labor government are not binding upon his government, an official said.

Netanyahu left last night for the US, where he will meet Clinton and address Jewish activists in New York before returning to Israel on Wednesday.

"Let's face it. The US is doing the negotiating with Damascus about resuming peace talks and not us," an official in the Prime Minister's Office said yesterday. "Therefore, it is important that Washington tips the balance on this issue and put its weight behind our position. It is our firm belief that non-signed agreements of the Labor government are not binding."

The US is believed to have been supportive of Israel's insistence that Palestinian Authority discuss modifications of Hebron redeployment, a move which made Netanyahu's meeting with PA Chairman Yasser Arafat possible.

Officials are concerned about Yitzhak Rabin's verbal assurance to Clinton that Israel would completely withdraw from the Golan, if it is satisfied with security arrangements and normalization. An unsigned US-brokered "non-paper" of May 1995, which makes clear that the principle of "equality" would govern Israeli-Syrian security arrangements, regardless of any Golan withdrawal, is also of concern.

Netanyahu said yesterday that his government will not be bound by the previous government's assurances on the future of the Golan Heights.

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Bakshi-D... condemn secular yo



Barak to throw hat into Labor ring today

Mashov Circle officially adopts Palestinian state idea

EHUD Barak is expected to formally announce his intention to challenge former prime minister Shimon Peres for the party leadership at a press conference this morning, Labor sources said yesterday.

Since the elections, Barak has unofficially placed himself in the running for Labor's top spot, although it wasn't always clear that his primary adversary was Peres.

Most party pundits saw the showdown as being between Barak and MK Haim Ramon.

That scenario, however, assumed that Peres was about to step down. That Peres chose not to do so was seen as working against Barak and helping Ramon, who has an interest in postponing the leadership bout as long as possible, to let memories of Peres' election defeat - for which Ramon is seen as largely responsible - recede.

Meanwhile, not only has Peres failed to step down, but Labor has been rife with rumors

SARAH HONIG

that Peres might seek the party's renomination for the elections scheduled for the year 2000. As a result of these rumors, the sources said, a number of Labor sources said, Barak has decided that it serves no purpose to politely wait until Peres steps down. Hence the party now expects Barak to officially declare that he is after the leadership, although the actual vote will not be held for a year.

Meanwhile, the party's dovish Mashov Circle yesterday openly advocated the establishment of a Palestinian state.

On the eve of the last elections, Labor dropped opposition to a Palestinian state from its platform, but did not advocate that such a state be formed.

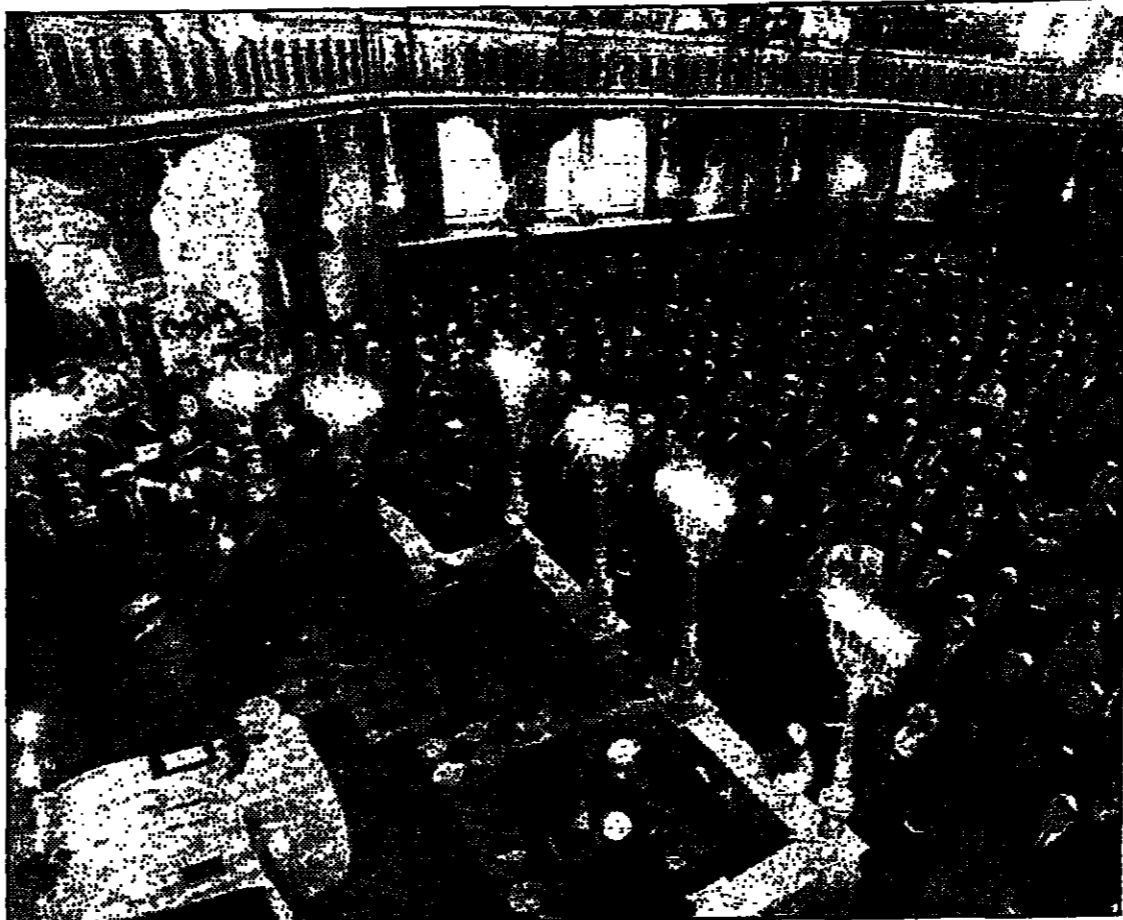
At a gathering yesterday, the Mashov Circle, headed by Yossi Beilin, proposed that the Palestinian state it envisions be demilitarized, that Jerusalem be

a joint capital for it and Israel, that the borders of the Gaza Strip be expanded, and that the new state be allowed to accept Palestinian refugees into its territory, though Israel would not be required to admit such refugees into its own jurisdiction.

Labor, meanwhile, continued to seek reasons for its electoral loss last May.

In a report finalized yesterday, the finger is pointed at Labor elections campaign manager and former housing minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer, election day organizer Meir Nitzan and head of the campaign organization division Moshe Shahal.

The report finds that apart from questions about campaign line and tactics, there was lack of attention to organizational and technical details which could have contributed to the defeat, and which, according to the report, also encouraged fraud.



Over a thousand worshippers, among them Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon, attend yesterday's re-inauguration ceremony at Bulgaria's largest synagogue, in Sofia. The synagogue opened in 1909, but was hit by a bomb during World War II. Its restoration was delayed by the former Communist regime. (Reuters)

Arafat and Mordechai agree to schedule meeting

ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

THEY spoke on the phone for five minutes, after which officials on both sides issued statements saying they had a "positive and friendly" conversation. However, Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai and Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat did not set a date for their first meeting.

Palestinian officials had said that this meeting had been scheduled for yesterday during the meeting last Wednesday between Arafat and Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu. However, Mordechai put off the meeting and spoke to Arafat on the telephone instead.

"No date was set for a meeting. President Arafat is leaving [Monday] for Japan for a three-day trip and it was agreed that they will speak again when he returns, to set a date to meet," PA spokesman Nabil Abu Rudeineh said.

The Defense Ministry issued a statement saying that the two agreed that they will set a date for the meeting soon and discuss security issues.

"The defense minister told the chairman of the Palestinian Authority that he expects the Palestinian Authority to enforce the closure of its offices in Jerusalem, as he promised the prime minister," the statement said.

Mordechai has said he plans to confer with Arafat about the closure, steps against terrorism, the Hebron redeployment and security at the Gaza airport.

Levy reiterates warning to EU on Orient House visits

ISRAEL and the European Union appeared to be on a collision course last night, after Foreign Minister David Levy delivered a sharp rebuke to European leaders who had seemingly rejected his appeal to avoid meetings with the Palestinians at Orient House when they visit Jerusalem.

Levy made his appeal on Friday when he travelled to Ireland, which currently holds the revolving presidency of the European Council, to meet Prime Minister John Bruton and Foreign Minister Dick Spring.

Spring had told a gathering of EU for-

ign ministers on Saturday that the so-called trioka of ministers from Ireland, Netherlands and Italy wanted to go to Orient House. But a report from Ireland yesterday said the EU is now checking whether the PLO itself wants to meet in east Jerusalem, after Levy had told Spring that Palestinian Authority chairman Yasser Arafat had agreed to hold the meeting elsewhere.

Levy said he had told the EU officials that they would effectively be taking sides - and compel the Palestinians to adopt a more radical stance - if they insisted on visiting Orient House.

DOUGLAS DAVIS

LONDON

Levy sent an implicit, but clear, warning to the European leaders to keep out of the Jerusalem debate and not set themselves up as alternative negotiators.

Without mentioning the European Union directly, he said an agreement had now been reached with Arafat over Palestinian institutions in Jerusalem, and "we hope there will not be other actors who try to put a spoke in the wheel in order to take us back to the situation as it was previously."

Meanwhile, US Secretary of State Warren Christopher announced that the first meeting of the joint Israeli-US counter-terrorism group will be held on November 25 and 26.

Speaking after talks with Levy here, Christopher said the US and Israel are already working together on the subject, "but this will give more structure to that joint endeavor."

Standing alongside Levy after their talks at the US ambassador's residence, Christopher ticked off Washington's wish list:

He said redeployment in Hebron "is an

important step to be taken," that Arafat's commitment to fight terrorism "is essential," and that the start of final status talks "is highly desirable."

Levy responded that Israel would proceed "as quickly as it takes to ensure success and to ensure reciprocal fulfillment of agreements."

He stressed that "the question of security is absolutely central and pivotal."

In his meeting with British Secretary of State Malcolm Rifkind, Levy was expected to again raise the issue of Europe's role in Jerusalem and cooperation between Britain and Israel over terrorism.

Master plan for J'lem Arab neighborhoods to be formulated

A SUBCOMMITTEE of the Ministerial Committee on Jerusalem yesterday ordered a comprehensive plan for the development of the Arab areas in the city - which lag far behind the Jewish areas - drawn up within two weeks.

Subcommittee chairman Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani called on representatives of several ministries to come up with the plan, concentrating on the issues of housing, education, and infrastructure, a ministry spokesman said.

Since 1967, when the city was reunited, there have been numerous government proposals to improve conditions in the city's Arab areas, but none has been

fully implemented. Mayor Ehud Olmert, a subcommittee member, has called on the government to draw up a plan that would demonstrate Israel's intention to hold on to all of the city, and to show greater fairness in its treatment of Arab residents.

The subcommittee, which was originally set up by Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu to keep a watch on Palestinian Authority activity in the city, was given a review of PA operations in the city by the General Security Service. It said the three PA offices the government had demanded be closed had indeed been shut down. *Bill Hutman*

Hebron withdrawal opponents pitch tent in Jerusalem

EVELYN GORDON

THE battle against the IDF withdrawal from Hebron was stepped up another notch yesterday, when a coalition of right-wing groups inaugurated a protest tent in downtown Jerusalem.

"The purpose of this is to show that not only the people of Hebron are fighting for Hebron," said Women in Green leader Nadia Matar, whose organization was one of the most visible groups. "The struggle for Hebron is the struggle of all Jews, in Israel and the Diaspora."

Most of the activists gave Moleket credit for organizing the tent, which is situated in the park at the intersection of King George and Ben-Yehuda streets and will be there for at least the rest of the week. However, party leader MK Rehavam Ze'evi was careful to take only a secondary role in the kick-off rally yesterday afternoon, since, he said, Moleket emphatically did not want the tent associated with any one party.

At the rally, attended by some 100 people, most speakers were careful to emphasize that it was not meant to be an anti-government event.

"Our basic assumption must still be that this government, with Binyamin Netanyahu at its head, will do the right thing," said author Moshe Shamir, the second speaker. "This is what we are fighting for. We are not fighting to topple the govern-

ment, but to direct and guide it." However, it was clear that not all the activists agreed with this official line. Some of the Women in Green bore signs reading "Prime minister - prime liar" and "I voted Bibi [Netanyahu] - I got [Arafat adviser Ahmed] Tibi."

The speaker who aroused the most enthusiasm was Matar.

"[Netanyahu] is doing things which are completely opposed to his own principles, in order to get approval from the world and from the press," she said. "Bibi: We did not elect you to be sympathetic to the Americans, the Norwegians and Peace Now!... You have no mandate to deviate from the ideology [expressed in your books] and from your promises!"

"By now, we have no fear of demonstrations, arrests and the blows of the police," she continued, adding that while this is not the route the right wing wants to take, it will not hesitate to do so if necessary.

"On Hebron we will fight to the finish!" she concluded.

Though Hebron was the main focus of the event, the speakers also expressed dissatisfaction with other aspects of the government's policy, from the lack of building in the areas to Netanyahu's meeting with Arafat to his failure to insist that Arafat change the PLO covenant and honor other parts of the Oslo agreement.

Israel-Palestinian Steering Committee to meet today

THE Israeli-Palestinian Steering Committee, headed by Dan Shomron and Saeb Erekat, is to meet today in Jericho for its first substantial discussion on Hebron, safe passage, the release of women prisoners, and other issues still to be finalized from the interim accords.

The meeting between Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat deliberately left the status of Hebron

JON IMMANUEL

redeployment ambiguous. In a so-called non-paper, Israel agreed to "deal with" the redeployment, and in his press conference Netanyahu agreed to "implement" it, taking into account security needs. The steering committee will appoint subcommittees to deal with each issue.

Erekat has said more frequently than other Palestinian officials

that there will be no renegotiation of the Hebron redeployment agreement reached last September 28. However, there may be discussions on increasing the planned number of joint patrols, the kinds of weapons to be used by Palestinian policemen in Hebron, and the right of hot pursuit, perhaps by joint patrols, into areas under Palestinian control.

No decision is expected to be reached before Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai meets with Arafat, probably this week. Mordechai may hold out the release of Hamas leader Sheikh Ahmed Yassin as a possible bargaining chip.

The number of Palestinians allowed into Israel to work is to be increased to 50,000 this month.

Lebanese elections continue quietly

DAVID RUDGE

VOTING in south Lebanon in the fourth round of the country's five-stage general elections passed quietly yesterday following a last-minute Syrian-brokered agreement between the Amal Shi'ite movement and rival Hizbullah to run on a joint list.

Many supporters of both organizations were reported to be upset by the agreement, which gives Hizbullah three seats and the right to choose one ally for another seat.

The accord is also reported to give Hizbullah three guaranteed seats and two allies in the fifth and final round of the nationwide ballot in the Bekaa Valley next Sunday.

Hizbullah supporters were said to be upset over the initial inclusion on the joint list of Bahia Hariri, sister of Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri, and of a Sunni moderate as the candidates for the Sidon area of south Lebanon. Hizbullah had backed Sunni strongman Mustafa Sa'ad and another Sunni fundamentalist for those seats.

The war of words became even more heated Friday when Hizbullah leader Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah accused Rafik Hariri of conspiring to upset the civil peace in Lebanon by "waging open war" on Hizbullah.

A compromise was reached whereby both Amal and Hizbullah agreed to leave the names of the controversial candidates for the Sidon area off the joint list.

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The Administration, Faculty, and Students mourn the tragic passing of its Devoted Friend and Benefactress
SANDRA PINSKY י"ה
and extends condolences to her beloved husband, Gerald; to her son, Morris, to her daughter, Barbara, her husband Tuviah Levkovich and their grandchildren; to her brother Marvin Blenerfeld and her sister, Elaine Silver. May her memory remain a role model to the students of Machal which she and Gerald dedicated to the memory of their late daughter

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In deep sorrow we announce the passing of our beloved
ALFRED FATTAL
The funeral took place yesterday, Sunday, September 8, 1996.
The Fattal Family
In Israel and England

We mourn the passing of our friend and colleague
ALFRED FATTAL
and extend sincere condolences to his family.
The Management and Staff of The Jerusalem Post

551 מן האוכל



Attorney Yehuda Raveh speaks yesterday in Jerusalem's Safra Square to lawyers participating in a Jerusalem Bar Association rally called to protest threats on Supreme Court President Aharon Barak and to show support for the legal system. (Efraim Kishon)

Two charged in Jaffa bomb plot

YUSEF Jedani, 20, and Ahmed Abu Kaud, 23, both of Jaffa, were charged in Tel Aviv District Court yesterday with plotting to destroy a synagogue, a Keter Plastics store, and other structures in the city that they believe are built on the sites of former mosques.

RAINE MARCUS
information that they were planning to torch Jewish-owned property in Jaffa for nationalistic and religious motives. Police found 10 firebombs, allegedly made by Jedani several months ago, at a Jaffa garage.

attacks and leaflets were found Abu Kaud's home. Following an intensive investigation, four men were arrested and remanded. Yesterday, Jedani and Abu Kaud were indicted after police concluded that they plotted to torch stores and a synagogue located on the Jaffa/Bat Yam border, because they are situated on Muslim holy sites, owned by the Waqf.

Teens barred from Bethlehem trip

"CROSSING Frontiers," a program for high school youth from the Middle East and Austria, came to an abrupt halt yesterday, when the Education Ministry refused to allow the Israeli participants to travel with the group to Bethlehem for security reasons.

BATSHEVA TSUR
and was due to conclude with two days in Bethlehem. However, until the last minute, it was not clear whether the Israeli pupils would be allowed to participate in the last leg of the trip for security reasons.

permit their children to sleep in or near Bethlehem, the ministry spokesman said. "Some of the parents agreed, others did not and some could not be reached," the spokesman said. "At this point, it became clear that the ministry could not be responsible for security and a clear refusal to permit the Israelis to continue was issued."

Israel backs UN test ban treaty

WITH Israel's support, the UN General Assembly, possibly as early as this week, is expected to approve an unusual procedure that clears the way for a nuclear test ban treaty, The New York Times reported yesterday.

Jerusalem Post Staff
Under normal circumstances, India's opposition would have stymied the accord. However, diplomats have enough votes in the General Assembly to override India.

The treaty, which cannot take effect until the 44 countries with nuclear arms or power stations have ratified it, would be the first time that all major nuclear powers agreed to ban nuclear explosions. There have been more than 2,045 nuclear tests since 1945, the Times reported.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Tehila wins UNESCO prize for its work
UNESCO's annual prize for encouraging reading and writing among semiliterate adults has been awarded to Tehila, an adult-education program of the Education Ministry. The award ceremony took place at the Jerusalem Theater yesterday, the International Day for the Advancement of Adult Education. A special delegation from UNESCO, as well as Education Minister Zevulun Hammer, participated in the ceremony.

Egged continuing service to Egypt
Egged is keeping a close watch on buses going to Egypt, following the arrest of an Egged driver in Taba last week after bullets were found in his bus, but it hopes to continue the service, spokesman Ron Ramer said yesterday.

New D-G for Postal Authority
The cabinet yesterday approved the nomination of Moshe Teri as director-general of the Postal Authority. The nomination, by Communications Minister Limor Livnat, was approved last week by the Postal Authority Council. Teri, 46, was until recently managing director of the Central Securities Company Ltd. Teri replaces Ran Levin, who resigned.

First rain falls in much of country
The first rain of the season fell in several parts of the country yesterday, with showers relatively heavy in some places in the North and along the coast.

Sentenced to life for murdering wife
Misgenau Chakula, 43, was convicted by the Tel Aviv District Court yesterday of murdering his wife, Atkelat, with an ax. The conviction carries a life sentence, with the judges saying there were no extenuating circumstances warranting a lesser sentence for the October 1995 murder.

Petition: Ad in 'Ha'aretz' accuses Netanyahu of Rabin's murder

THE author of an advertisement which indirectly accused Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu of responsibility for the murder of prime minister Yitzhak Rabin should be investigated on suspicion of sedition and libel, attorney Yedidya Be'eri demanded, in a petition to the High Court of Justice yesterday.

EVERLYN GORDON
crime, and after he was executed, Ahab took possession of the vineyard. In response, God sends Elijah the Prophet to curse Ahab. "And thou shalt speak unto [Ahab], saying: Thus sayeth the Lord: Hast thou killed and also taken possession?" the passage concludes.

Northern council head requests bomb shelters

MATEH Asher Regional Council head Yehuda Shavit yesterday called on the government to implement promises made by the previous government after Operation Grapes of Wrath - especially regarding the construction of new bomb shelters.

DAVID RUDGE
He noted that the Beduin village of Arab al-Aramshe, near the Lebanese border, still has only one public bomb shelter for its 1,200 residents.

enough to hold about 50 people. We are not calling on the government to do anything other than carry out decisions that have already been made," Shavit said. A spokesman for the Prime Minister's Office said that NIS 7 million had been allocated until the end of 1998 for the construction of bomb shelters in Arab villages in the North.

Government hospital workers may strike over proposed changes at Sheba

OVER 10,000 government hospital workers said they will apply sanctions and possibly strike before the end of this week because Sheba Hospital managing director Prof. Mordechai Shani has "decided to institute structural and organizational changes" in his institution - apparently without consulting either the Health Ministry or the unions.

JUDY SIEGEL
ten and clear commitment of outgoing Health Ministry director-general Dr. Meir Oren and labor agreements signed by the ministry and the Civil Service Commission.

for the position, due to suspicion of conflict of interest. No other action has been taken against Shani, who returned to Sheba as its director.

Weizman hosts new immigrants

SOME 500 olim, including 50 new IDF recruits, were hosted by President Ezer Weizman and his wife Reuma at a pre-Rosh Hashana reception at Beit Hanassi yesterday.

"We have to learn to understand each other, and to enjoy each other's company in order to truly make you feel part of this country," Weizman told the immigrants.

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DU NEED TO SUCCE...

US warns Iraq as two Kurdish towns fall

Turkey hunts rebel Kurds

BAGHDAD (Reuters) - Thousands of refugees fled fighting between two rival Kurdish factions in northern Iraq yesterday as an Iraqi-backed group captured two more towns, driving its rival towards the border with Iran.

Senior US officials warned Iraqi President Saddam Hussein he would "pay the price" if Iraqi government forces were involved in the fighting, but said they had no evidence of a direct Iraqi role in the capture of Degala and Koi Sanjaq.

The Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) said Iraqi troops did help the rival Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP) capture the towns. The KDP denied it.

Koi Sanjaq lies about 100 km northwest of Sulaimaniya, the last main PUK stronghold near the Iranian border.

Reuters correspondent Osman Senkul saw some 5,000 refugees fleeing towards the Iranian border on anything on wheels - cars, coaches, trucks and even bulldozers laden with belongings.

KDP forces backed by Iraqi troops captured the main northern Kurdish city of Arbil from the PUK on August 31.

The United States responded by firing 44 cruise missiles at what it said were military targets in southern Iraq and by extending a no-fly zone in the south almost up to Baghdad.

PUK leader Jalal Talabani told the British Broadcasting Corporation that the US missile attacks on southern Iraq had done nothing to stop Saddam from continuing his attacks in the Kurdish-

held north.

"They must prevent Saddam Hussein... Now we have to punish him," Talabani said.

"We call on the US and its coalition partners to intervene urgently to halt the Iraqi aggression and end this onslaught against the Kurdish people," the PUK said in a statement.

But it was not clear how the United States would respond to the latest developments.

Defense Secretary William Perry referred to inter-Kurdish fighting as a civil war in which it would be a mistake for the United States to intervene.

He said on the CBS program *Face the Nation* that the United States did not know the scope of Iraqi involvement in the latest clashes between the KDP, which recently sided with Saddam, and the PUK which denies allegations it is backed by Iran.

General John Shalikashvili, the top US military officer, said Saddam appeared to have withdrawn all but several hundred of his troops from the allied-declared Kurdish safe haven set up after the 1991 Gulf War.

"Our judgment is that it's certainly in the hundreds and not in the thousands," Shalikashvili said of the number of Iraqi troops thought by the United States to remain in the zone supposedly off-limits to Iraqi onslaught.

White House chief-of-staff Leon Panetta also told CNN that Washington did not know the extent of Iraqi involvement in recent fighting but added:



Iraqi Kurdish children gather around a woman washing her clothes yesterday, as others carry water to their tents set up near Kani Masi village in northern Iraq. Some 40 families have moved to the village in fear that Turkish troops may enter the area. (Reuters)

"We have made it clear that if Saddam uses forces against his own people or his neighbors, there is a price to be paid."

He declined to say what the US, which has received scant diplo-

matic support from its allies for its military action, might do.

Iraqi media maintained their defiant tone yesterday, reiterating Baghdad's threats to shoot down US or allied aircraft flying over

Iraq and ignore the no-fly zones.

Official newspapers carried on their front pages a Foreign Ministry statement vowing that "our air defenses throughout Iraq will hit at any hostile target violat-

ing our skies."

Iraq's military said on Saturday it had fired surface-to-air missiles but they had missed. The Pentagon said it could not confirm that missiles had been fired at US planes.

TUNCELLI, Turkey (Reuters) - Turkish security forces stepped up land and air operations against Kurdish separatists yesterday after the rebels shot dead nine government troops in an ambush.

Security officials said up to 20,000 troops, backed by helicopters, were involved in the latest move against Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) guerrillas, waging a 12-year fight for self-rule. More than 20,000 people have died in the insurgency.

The theater of operations included a triangle formed by the provinces of Tunceli, Erzurum and Bingol, the security sources said.

The state-run Anatolian news agency said two Turkish troops and two PKK guerrillas were killed in a clash yesterday in Genc township, Bingol province. Three soldiers were also injured.

In Yusekova, near the Iranian border in Hakkari province, police carried out house-to-house searches for PKK rebels after slapping a curfew on the district and cutting telephone service, Anatolian said. The restrictions were lifted later yesterday.

Earlier, about 40 PKK gunmen ambushed a Turkish unit near Kemaliye township, also in Bingol province, military sources told Reuters.

Nine members of the security forces were killed. Government troops killed two rebels after sending helicopter-backed support to the region.

Russian troops start leaving Chechnya

RUSSIAN troops began pulling out of Chechnya yesterday under a peace deal signed with the rebels last month but still in doubt.

A military band struck up cheerful music at a farewell ceremony at the Russian military airport outside the Chechen capital Grozny where the 133rd battalion began the withdrawal.

Overall troop commander Vyacheslav Tikhomirov thanked the soldiers, wished them well and handed out medals in a low-key ceremony reflecting mixed feelings over the withdrawal after 21 months of bloody and inconclusive fighting.

"For your service, for military achievements, all the best to you and a safe journey home," Tikhomirov said, to the sound of polite clapping from the rows of conscripts.

The troops started pulling out leaving behind joint military administrations in Grozny which currently limit their activities to patrolling the city.

But Interfax news agency said Deputy Interior Minister Valery Fyodorov met his

opposite number in the separatist government, Kazbek Makhachev, to discuss deeper coordination between law enforcement bodies of Russia and Chechnya.

Interfax said no practical decisions had been made at their meeting in the village of Novye Atagi south of Grozny.

The peace deal, signed last month after Moscow was humiliated by a rebel attack on Grozny, provides for the withdrawal of all Russian troops temporarily stationed in the region. But there is disagreement about what that involves.

The rebels say the fact that there were no troops in Chechnya before the conflict began in late 1994 means they must all pull out. But the Russian side has said some troops will be based there permanently.

President Boris Yeltsin added to the confusion last Thursday when he broke his silence

on his envoy Alexander Lebed's peace mission by saying he backed the deal but opposed the early withdrawal of troops.

Tikhomirov said the deal Lebed signed with the rebels was the last chance for the conflict to be resolved peacefully.

"Today's attempt at a peaceful resolution of the military conflict in Chechnya is already the third. There will not be a fourth," Tass quoted him as telling reporters. "If this attempt fails, the issue will be resolved with other methods and means."

Fighting has died right down since the August 21 cease-fire and Tass reported there had even been a football match between rebels and soldier, won 3-1 by the soldiers.

But the agency also quoted military officials yesterday as saying one soldier had been killed and one wounded when their positions were fired on.

The latest deal has fueled hopes for a lasting peace because it has tackled the issue at the heart of the conflict for the first time - the region's political status. (Reuters)

Turkish Cypriot soldier shot dead in Cyprus

MICHELE KAMBAS
NICOSIA

A Turkish Cypriot soldier was killed and another seriously wounded yesterday when shots were fired at their post near the UN-patrolled buffer zone that separates Greek and Turkish Cypriots, officials said.

It was not immediately clear who was responsible for the shooting, but Turkish Cypriots and Turkey blamed Greek Cypriot soldiers and warned that the incident would heighten tension and hamper efforts to resolve the Cyprus problem.

There were also fears that the incident was related to the killing of two Greek Cypriot men during anti-Turkish demonstrations on the demarcation line last month.

"We have learnt that there was an infiltration from the English base and this soldier was shot, and I am afraid that we have findings the guns used are actually similar to the guns used by the Greek [Cypriot] police and the military," Turkish Foreign Minister Tansu Ciller said.

But the Cypriot government categorically denied any involvement of police or soldiers from the Greek Cypriot side in the incident.

Government spokesman Yiannakis Cassoulides, quoted by the official Cyprus News Agency, said National Guard officials examined all weapons held by soldiers in the area and found no indications of them being used.

He said police had no reports about shots from the "free areas to the Turkish-occupied areas" and described the incident as "an act of Turkish provocation," implying that Turks had killed one of their own men.

Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denktash was quoted by the Turkish Cypriot news agency TAK as saying: "The blood of Turks has been drunk once again... Have the church and Greek leadership satisfied their thirst by this blood? Will they?"

The shooting occurred at about 4 a.m. at a Turkish Cypriot guard unit in Acheritrou village, which Turks call Guvercinlik, on the northern edge of the British base of Dhekelia in southeastern Cyprus.

TAK identified the dead soldier as Allah Verdikilic and the wounded as Burhan Cihangir. It said both were Turkish Cypriots. (Reuters)

Okinawans vote 9-1 against US bases

NAHA, Japan (Reuters) - Okinawa residents yesterday convincingly backed a proposal to cut back the huge US military presence on the Japanese island, with supporters claiming victory despite a relatively low voter turnout.

The result failed to settle the one-year-old confrontation between Okinawa and the central government over the bases, sparked last September by the rape of a 12-year-old schoolgirl by three US servicemen.

Political analysts said the outcome lifted some of the pressure on Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto and the Clinton administration to take immediate new steps to reduce the size of the forces, but the strength of the opposition showed that the problem must be addressed at some point.

The Okinawa election commission said that 89.1 percent of those voting backed the initiative with just 8.5 percent against. The remaining ballots were spoiled.

Approval was never in doubt since only a handful of ultra-nationalists had campaigned for a "no" vote.

Oprah tops list of best-paid entertainers

NEW YORK (AP) - Oprah Winfrey has talked so well during the past two years that she once again ranks atop *Forbes* magazine's list of the 40 best paid entertainers. Her combined 1995 and '96 earnings - a whopping \$171 million.

That puts her \$21 million ahead of No. 2, director Steven Spielberg, and returns her to the top spot she last occupied in 1993.

The reigning queen of talk television, Oprah just keeps on going, despite a temporary dip in ratings two years ago. *Forbes* says in its September 23 issue, released yesterday, the magazine said a fitness book she co-authored added to her

earnings.

Spielberg, ranked No. 1 in 1994 and 1995, fell to the No. 2 spot. Winfrey occupied last year as his \$150 million two-year estimated gross income failed to stack up.

Next on the list are the Beatles at No. 3, singer Michael Jackson, and the Rolling Stones in fifth place.

Rounding out the top 10, beginning with No. 6: the Eagles, Arnold Schwarzenegger, magician David Copperfield, actor Jim Carrey and Michael Crichton, author of *Jurassic Park*.

Forbes noted that the world's top 40 list, which the magazine has been compiling since 1987, has seen

Belgian ex-minister arrested in Cools murder probe

BRUSSELS (Reuters) - The Belgian judiciary arrested former regional minister Alain Van der Biest yesterday in connection with the unsolved murder of a socialist politician five years ago.

Belgian media said that Van der Biest had been detained in connection with the killing of Andre Cools following testimony by his former personal secretary Richard Taxquet.

Taxquet was arrested on Friday along with three others in connection with the Cools case. Police have also issued an international arrest warrant for Pino Di Mauro, Van der Biest's former driver, a judicial source said.

Two relief aid workers killed, 34 injured in Rwanda mine blast

KIGALI, Rwanda (AP) - A bus full of relief workers hit a land mine as it headed to a camp for Rwandan refugees in eastern Zaire, killing two people and injuring 34, relief groups said yesterday.

The victims of the Saturday morning explosion at Kibumba camp in Goma were Zairians working for the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

Three of the injured had both their legs amputated at a hospital, where another 18 were hospitalized, the federation said in a statement from its headquarters in Geneva.

The agency said it was suspending operations for a week "to review this latest security incident and allow a period of mourning."

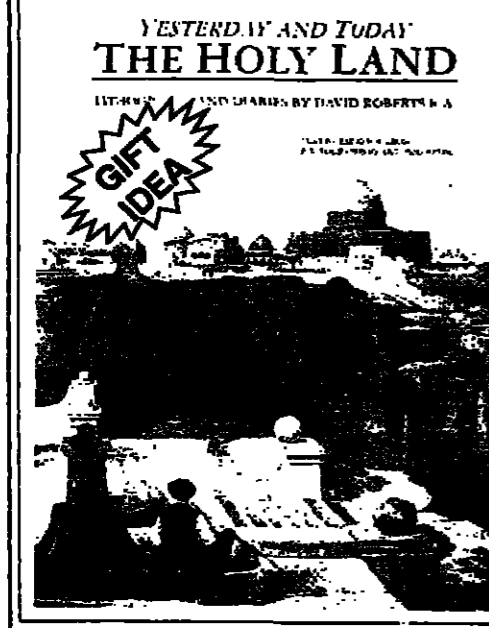
The federation has been caring for

200,000 refugees at Kibumba.

"It's sad to see the Society hit by tragedy for the second time since it resumed responsibility for the operation, when things have gone well," said spokesman Piero Calvi Pariseti.

In June, three Zairians working for the same organization were killed when unidentified gunmen opened fire on its main warehouse near Goma.

David Roberts-Yesterday and Today



David Roberts' lithographs, based on the sketches executed during his remarkable exploration of the Holy Land in 1839, won him fame that endures today. This volume presents for the first time Roberts' original plates, arranged in chronological order, with commentary, and accompanied by splendid color photographs of the same locations as they are today - a stirring voyage of discovery through the experiences and character of an exceptional artist.

Large format, hardcover, 272pp.

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New book claims Bormann was smuggled out of Germany, lived in Britain

MARTIN Bormann, Adolf Hitler's right-hand man, lived in a quiet English village for 11 years after being smuggled out of the Fuehrer's bunker by British commandos, according to a new book.

Christopher Creighton, a former television and film director, claims he was part of the crack unit that whisked Bormann out of Berlin only hours before Allied forces captured the German capital in May 1945.

His book, *Op.JB (Operation James Bond)*, says Winston Churchill, Franklin Roosevelt and Britain's King George VI all approved of the operation - the purpose of which was to help the Allies recover an immense fortune appropriated by the Nazis and salted away in Swiss bank accounts.

"It was a question of morality. The Nazis had stolen a vast sum and Churchill wanted it to be returned to its rightful owners," Creighton, who claims Bormann's fate is the "last great secret of World War II," told Reuters in an interview. *Op.JB* was published at the beginning of September.

According to Creighton, who acted on Broadway with Noel Coward and in London with Sir Laurence Olivier, Bormann alone had access to the gold, gems and cash, a haul so vast that the side of a mountain had to be hollowed out to hold it.

Creighton claims that after the capture of Bormann, Hitler's private secretary, 95 percent of the plundered treasure was restored to its former owners.

Bormann, who was indicted in his absence

by the Nuremberg tribunal after World War II for crimes against humanity, was smuggled into Britain, debriefed by British naval intelligence and from 1945 until 1956 lived in southern England, he said.

"Martin Bormann lived in Hampshire, near Dummer where Fergie [Sarah Ferguson] grew up," Creighton, whose credits include American TV series *Maverick* and Britain's *The Saint*, added.

Fergie, as the Duchess of York is popularly called, grew up in the sleepy Hampshire village, before her marriage to Prince Andrew, Queen Elizabeth's second son. The marriage ended in divorce in March.

Bormann was a trusted and loyal aide, responsible for Hitler's finances. Hitler once called him "my loyal Party comrade," and Bormann was a witness at the German dictator's wedding to Eva Braun.

Creighton claims Ian Fleming, creator of the suave British secret agent James Bond, was also part of the commando team, and that while in England Bormann was used extensively by both British and US intelligence agencies to help them track down wanted Nazi war criminals.

In the 1960s, Creighton worked with British actor Roger Moore, who would later play Fleming's character James Bond. Moore and Creighton were classmates after the war at

London's prestigious acting school, the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art.

Creighton acknowledged that historians doubted the truth of his book and admitted that he had no documentary evidence to support his claims.

He also noted that his story cannot be challenged by Fleming or any of the other alleged members of the commando team, all of whom have since died.

"I didn't plan it that way - to be the last survivor, but I can tell you it is the truth. Anyway, documents can be forged, but my recollections cannot," he said.

The British Ministry of Defense was unable to comment on Creighton's story. "Anyone who might have known anything around that time is either dead or retired," a MOD spokesman said.

Bormann was sentenced to death in absentia at Nuremberg but was never actually brought to trial. His remains were found in December 1972 in Berlin by German authorities - a discovery Creighton labeled as "convenient."

He claims that Bormann was flown to Argentina in 1956 but soon moved to Paraguay where he died in 1959. According to Creighton, Bormann was buried in a local cemetery, but some time later, in a deal concluded by the US Central Intelligence Agency, the Paraguayan government and German intelligence, his remains were exhumed and taken back to Berlin.

"This is not something the CIA would want the world to know," Creighton said. (Reuters)

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Looking for a golden feather

HELEN KAYE

His wife's ultimatum was clear. "Finish your viola concerto, or you'll sleep on the living-room sofa."

He did, and the concerto, which had its premiere last year with the Haifa Symphony, may win Oded Zehavi Composer of the Year in the 1996 ACUM Golden Feather Awards. The awards, celebrating the organization's 60th anniversary, will be broadcast live tomorrow night on Channel 2.

Zehavi is among 40 nominees in eight categories, plus four life-achievement awards competing for the NIS 250,000 prize money from ACUM (the Israel Composers and Publishers Association). Yair Rosenblum, who died of cancer on August 27, was awarded the lifetime achievement award for light music in a moving bedside ceremony shortly before he died.

Rosenblum composed more than 1,000 songs, including "The Song of Peace" that Yitzhak Rabin sang the night he was assassinated. The other three - in the fields of serious music, literature and song lyrics - will be awarded tomorrow. They have been chosen by a panel of ACUM judges. TV viewers can vote by calling 055-332-882.

Yehuda Poliker has been named in six categories: best song, best album, best songwriter, best lyricist, best performer and best video. Shlomo Arzi and Aviv Gefen are nominated for everything except video clip, and Arkadi Duchin missed out on best performer. Rita and

Dani Litani join the big three in that category.

There will also be prizes for best serious composer, author, children's book, video and, for the first time, for stand-up comedian. Among its five nominees, this column lists the inimitable Orna Banai, whose street-smart, wise-cracking, idiom-mangling alter ego, Limor, has been stretching audiences in the aisles ever since she made her appearance in the TV show *Action*.

The children's books include *The Peach Child* (Roni Givati), *Golden Pajama Leopard* (Nurit Zarchi), and

How Grandpa Does It (Nira Harel). The literary prize nominees include poet Natan Zach for *Because I'm Around*, Alona Kimhi for *Anastasia*, and Amos Kenan for *Block 23*.

The Argentinian-born Reuven Scroussi, whose compositions are mainly for chamber ensembles, and which draw on his South American and Sephardi roots, is nominated for *Lux*.

Eitan Steinberg likes to combine East and West in his music and play it on ancient and modern instruments from both cultures. The nominated piece, *Princess of Five Faces*, for which he

wrote the music, was written and performed by Esther Ben-Zaken last year.

There's also Yoram Leef, whose Second Symphony was commissioned for the Jerusalem 3000 opening by the Jerusalem Symphony, for *Threads of Time and Distance*, and Oded Assaf for *Beta*.

Rita's latest album *Mighty Love*, has sold 115,000 copies, and her show of the same name won her the best performer nomination.

Arkadi Duchin, a 15-year-old Russian immigrant in the mid-1970s, became a Hebrew poet in the 1990s. He first came to national notice in 1990 as the singer-songwriter and lyricist of the suc-

cessful rock band The Friends o' Natasha. His first, and very introspective, solo album, called *Arkadi Duchin* and the song "Because I Love You so Much" have won him his nominations.

Gefen's album *The Letter* is his fifth and the exquisite lament "To Cry for You," which covers the rest of the nominations, is from it.

Arzi first rose to prominence in the 1970s, winning the Israel Song Festival twice and making nine albums in 10 years, only one of which flopped. He's in his 40s now, and the nominee album, a double CD called *Two*, is full of longings, as is the nominated song from it, "You Don't Know What I'm Going Through."

Poliker's song "I Want It Too" comes from the nominee album, *The Child in You*, which leapt to the top of the charts within three days of its release.

Music to bloom in the Negev

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

CLASSICAL-music lovers in Arad, where Israeli pop and rock usually rule the day, have a reason to rejoice. For the first time in the city's history they will have a classical music series of their own, courtesy of the Israel Sinfonietta.

The Sinfonietta, which extends its activity this season and plays three concerts in Arad including bussing local subscribers for free to one concert in Beersheba.

"We believe that our main mandate is to widen our activity within the area we operate in," says Misha Gross, the Sinfonietta's general director. "We already have series in both Ashkelon and Kiryat Gat and there is more to be done towards Dimona and other locations in the Negev. We must bring music to all willing communities around us."

The Sinfonietta has about 2,000 subscribers in Beersheba and an additional 500 in the rest of the country.

In the coming season the Sinfonietta showcases artist like extraordinary cellist Robert Cohen, renowned violinist Iona Brown, the ever-popular Swingle Singers, Shlomo Mintz (playing Mozart's Third Violin Concerto), as well as some exceptional local musicians like pianist Daniel Gordler and conductors Avner Biran and Jonathan Webb.

The Sinfonietta has embarked on a program enabling youngsters to attend concerts for free. "For the past three seasons children from grades one to nine can attend orchestra concerts free, when accompanied by an adult subscriber," says Gross. The Sinfonietta also plays for close to 10,000 children annually in programs organized by Rashi Levatov.

The Sinfonietta has just returned from a very successful tour in Spain. "We played in a wonderful hall and what I heard was quite amazing," says Gross. "Never before did I realize our orchestra can sound so good. Unfortunately Israel does not have any halls with such acoustics."

The Sinfonietta 1996/97 season features three major series, the regular 10-concert classical music series showcasing a repertoire ranging from Bach and Haydn to Mahler and Beethoven, and focusing on the tried and true works in the classical literature. Also, a light classics series and the very popular opera series in Beersheba, plus the series in the adjoining cities as well as those in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem. The season opens and closes as usual with huge choral works under the baton of Meir, who throughout the season leads five of the orchestra's 20 programs.

More Moiseyev

HELEN KAYE

THE Moiseyev Dance Company left people goggle-eyed and gasping when it first visited in 1989. Now the 90 virtuoso dancers are coming back, with founder Igor Moiseyev, who still runs the company at age 90. He's the choreographer of the more than 300 dances in the Moiseyev repertoire. The dances rely mainly on classical ballet for their technique but on folkloric elements for their inspiration, and Moiseyev happily pillages French, Spanish, and even Chinese folk dance.

The Moiseyev dancers are taken into the company after five grueling years at the Moiseyev school which accepts only 20 of the 600 or so that apply annually. There will be seven local performances in Tel Aviv, Haifa and Jerusalem from Saturday.

Please note

All listings for the poster pages in next week's "Time Out" must be submitted to Judie Fattal by noon this Thursday due to the upcoming holiday.



Violinist Johnny Frigo (left) and clarinetist/saxophonist Franz Jackson - two of the musicians coming to Tel Aviv.

Chicago jazz: Ragtime to our time

HELEN KAYE

CARL Sandburg celebrated her energy and power. Al Capone made her notorious. Richard Daly branded her with infamy and Bill Clinton came to her with flowers.

She's Chicago, "hog butcher to the world," the crossroads of America and, in the 1920s, the place to be for jazz. To this day, there are some 80 jazz clubs in Chicago, more than in any other city in the world.

Chicago jazz, from the mid-'20s to the present, is the theme of this year's Tel Aviv Museum of Art winter jazz series from October to March 1997. As usual, the visiting artist appears with Israeli jazz people, and they jam together.

Old Franz Jackson plays clarinet and sax, and sings, his gravelly voice reminiscent of Louis Armstrong's with whom he played in the '20s. Jackson is 85, but you'd never know

it from the sunlight sounds he makes. He keeps up with current jazz trends but his strength derives from ragtime, blues and swing.

Last year Chicago gave him the key to the city and he's coming here next month.

Pianist Dani Gottfried, the series' artistic director, calls Ira Sullivan "an incredible improviser and one of the unsung greats." Sullivan, past 60, plays trumpet and sax, a rare coupling. He'll come in November.

The December soloist is singer Francine Griffin, a Chicago star who sticks close to home. She started with bebop and sang with such as Sonny Stitt, Winton Kelly and Paul Chambers.

She's followed by bassist turned violinist Johnny Frigo, who dates his career from the

big-band era and played with Tommy Dorsey's brother Jimmy among others.

He abandoned his bass for the violin in the '80s. Here he's appearing with special guest star Nissim Yamini, in a tribute to Nat King Cole.

Drummer Paul Wertico (who regularly plays with Pat Metheny) and tenor sax Ari Brown, regarded as one of the top six horns in Chicago, complete the sextet of programs. Wertico ranges freely over many jazz genres, as does Brown, and both represent the current Chicago jazz scene.

Mifalei Discont (Discount Bank cultural fund) and Coca-Cola have contributed some of the approximately NIS 325,000 budget. The concerts are at TAMM and the Israel Museum. Tickets range from NIS 70 (NIS 10 less for museum members) per concert to NIS 390 for the series, (NIS 345 for members).

Picture this: Camerata in Jerusalem

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

WOULD the Metropolitan Opera move from Manhattan to Austin? Not likely.

But here in Israel one of our major orchestras is changing its residence, as of this season. The Israel Camerata, formerly of Rehovot, is now in Jerusalem.

"Our 1996 budget is NIS 4.5 million," says Camerata general director Ruth Brodie. "The 1997 budget should be NIS 5.5 million. And the municipality of Rehovot simply cannot help us any longer."

Rumors about the move to Jerusalem were in the air for a long time. But until the deed was sealed, orchestra personnel asked not to print anything. However, when the Camerata presented its subscribers with its 1996/97 season brochure, the new name was revealed: The Israel Camerata, Jerusalem.

Not everybody in Jerusalem is happy about it. Ask Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra personnel and you will realize that they are far from thrilled. Some JSO players said, "It is simply not fair that the municipality should support another orchestra in the city, whilst we are still fighting for better salaries and working conditions and larger audiences. We are the city's major orchestra and there is really no need and no point in having another orchestra supported by the same bodies."

But Brodie says, "Whatever funding we get from the municipality does not come from the JSO's budget. They will not get less money because the municipality funds us. ... We have a different kind of an orchestra - we are not fighting over the same public." That said, Brodie hopes that "we can do things together with the JSO."

The Camerata actually played within the JSO subscription series this past season, but that was when the JSO was on tour.

Those looking at the Camerata brochure for the coming season will not find any major changes from the past few seasons. The season comprises two series of four programs each, a choral series

and an instrumental one. This year each of the concerts will be performed once in Jerusalem and also in Rehovot and Tel Aviv. The choral series programs are repeated three times each in Tel Aviv.

It is undoubtedly the most popular series around in our local classical music world, Biran explains that "this season was planned before we knew about the move to Jerusalem. Starting from the next season [1997/98] our programs will reflect the city we are working in." Biran is looking to a different kind of Camerata season in the future.

The move to Jerusalem is not an entirely independent one. It involves a very tight collaboration with the Jerusalem Music Center, which Biran is very thrilled about. "We could benefit from their excellent recording studio which is really ideal for us. On the other hand they can benefit from the fact that they will have a sort of house orchestra. The young musicians they nurture can play with us, and now that there is an orchestra around, they can do conducting masterclasses which they never did in the past. These are the immediate benefits of this exciting collaboration. But much more will follow."

Beni Galei, the general director of the JMC, says that "to begin with we are not taking two organizations and joining them into one. We are talking about a very tight joint venture which will benefit both of us. Obviously nothing major will happen in the coming season because we both have our plans in hand, but the future holds many exciting possibilities. With an orchestra around we can embark on much more television programs and educational projects and as the years pass, the collaboration can be even closer."

While the Camerata performs regularly in Israel the bulk of its work in recent years has been abroad. "From 1997 we will embark on four tours annually," Brodie says, which means "much more work for the orchestra. We have planned 15 concerts in North America next year and again in '98

and there is a Japanese tour as well."

The Camerata features its instrumental programs on tour, and not the vocal and choral ones which are so popular in Israel. There is also a growing demand for recordings. The Camerata has currently two promotion discs, and quite a few are in the works for the next few years.

The Israel Camerata is a unique musical organization. In an age in which many new orchestras have come and gone in Israel as a result of the massive immigration from the former Soviet Union, the Camerata, most of whose members are indeed immigrants, managed to carve for itself a very specific niche in the local music scene. It does not set to compete with any other orchestras. It works first and foremost where other orchestras fear to

tread, performing baroque vocal music. Moreover, being a chamber orchestra it very specifically sticks to its own repertoire and never tries to play works more akin to symphony orchestras. And in contrast to many other new and old orchestras, it has enjoyed unequivocal, unanimous acclaim from audience and critics alike.

In its recent European tour the Camerata enjoyed rave reviews from critics in Germany and the Netherlands too.

The Israel Camerata is now part and parcel of Jerusalem whether other local art organizations in the capital wish to accept it or not. The orchestra opens its season October 22 at the Henry Crown Symphony Hall with a program of two requiems, that of Mozart and that of Zelenka. But these requiems will not sound the knell for the orchestra. Rather they will signal its reincarnation.



REMEMBER THE SINGING RABBI...

Produced by the Shlomo Carlebach Foundation, this is a beautiful tribute to the memory of the "Singing Rabbi", released in time for his Yahrzeit. The Sweetest Friends is a set of two audio cassettes. The Gift of Shabbos includes Eliyahu HaNavi, David Melech, Yism'chu, Yibneh HaMikdash and more, and the Shuvah includes Tzur Yisroel, Od Yishama, Niggun and Shamir V'Zachor, among others.

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Form for ordering the audio cassettes, including fields for Name, Address, City, Code, Tel. (day), and Signature.

Beyond good and evil

FILM REVIEW

ADINA HOFFMAN

BUTTERFLY KISS

★★★★

Directed by Michael Winterbottom. Screenplay by Frank Cottrell Boyce. Hebrew title: *Mishkat HaParpar*. 100 minutes. English dialogue. Hebrew subtitles. Children under 17 not admitted without an adult.

Eunice _____ Amanda Plummer
Miriam _____ Saskia Reeves

WITH her pinched rasp, hunted gaze and the long, low stride of a gawky teenage boy, Amanda Plummer's screen presence has always been bizarre. But in English director Michael Winterbottom's harshly poignant black comedy, *Butterfly Kiss*, she pushes her usual weirdness to a new extreme. For the role of Eunice, a bisexual dominatrix and casual serial killer, she wears 17 tattoos under her blouse, as well as nipple and navel piercings, and a crisscrossed set of full-body padlocks and bike chains. When she speaks, she growls, and when she laughs, she shrieks.

Written by Frank Cottrell Boyce, the movie is unquestionably raw: violent, perverse and emotionally quite painful. But it's also a work of real honesty and unexpected pathos. Equal parts road movie, dark comedy, existential fable and love story, *Butterfly Kiss* is one of the most original movies I've seen this year, and it's well worth the difficult viewing.

The picture begins with a shot of Eunice stomping along the shoulder of a northern English freeway, mumbling frantically to herself. Whenever she arrives at a gas station, she marches inside and interrogates the girl behind the counter, demanding to know if they've got a certain record she's looking for, a love song. She then insists without fail that the cashier's name is Judith. When the girl begs to differ, Eunice grows hostile, gesticulating with a packet of letters (supposedly from Judith), as if they were proof. Sometimes she becomes violent.

In one case, though, the girl behind the counter follows her outside and tries to help. Miriam (Saskia Reeves) is pudgy and kind, a virgin with wide eyes, a sharply angular nose and a genuine belief in human goodness. Eunice the free spirit captures her imagination, and Miriam abruptly invites her to stay the night in the spare room at her mother's house.

The two become lovers and end up cruising the highways, supposedly in search of the mysterious Judith, but actually acting out a complex and at times brutal game of power and passion. Miriam, or Mi, as she's called, has fallen desperately in love with Eunice, or Eu (which makes them Mi and Eu).

And Eunice, for her part, seems to enjoy having someone along to

abuse. As Eunice grows increasingly more violent, strewing a trail of strangers' bodies behind them (for no apparent reason, except because she can, and because once she has become a murderer, she finds scant reason not to repeat the crime), Mi struggles to help her hide what she's done, and to quit killing once and for all. "I never stopped looking for the good in Eu," she explains, without guile, in a retrospective monologue that's spoken directly into a video camera from some high-security sort of place, and woven into the action.

While Plummer's performance is consistently scene-stealing, it's Saskia Reeves' patient, anguished portrayal of Mi that gives the film its plaintive emotional pitch. She manages, especially in these narrative sections, to convey a sympathetic sense both of what it means to lose perspective in love and to find one's moral compass irrevocably demagnetized. There's something touching about her need to make us understand why she acted as she did in Eu's company. (She's not scrambling to justify her actions in the confessional scenes so much as attempting to retrace her own twisted footprints and comprehend for herself what happened.) And the more we know and like Mi, the easier it is to recognize the charming, vital, needy sides of Eu, too. While we can't possibly fathom what leads her to bash out the brains of innocent people, we can, as Mi does, see the parts of her that are still good.

This process of gradual empathy is barbed, to say the least, and Winterbottom and Boyce are careful to make it clear that such deep identification can be deadly. If taken too far, or if substituted for a sturdy sense of self, Eu snarls at her desperate girlfriend at one point. "I'll make you evil before you make me good." And in some ways she succeeds. Mi is no innocent by the movie's end, just as Eu is not completely rotten.

With an unusual mixture of gravity and humor, grit and lyricism, the filmmakers dare ask moral questions without moralizing: Is the soul of a killer half empty or half full? And what of the rest of us? Do evil actions make us evil? Do good ones make us good?

As should be clear from all of the above, the film will not appeal to everyone. Of course, no film will do that, but *Butterfly Kiss* is an especially radical case. Ironically enough, the brutality and "depravity" of the main character qualities that are sure to turn some viewers off - are also what make the tenderness that one comes to feel for Eunice so strong and so strange. It's unsettling to care about a monster.

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OPINION

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Cause & effect

LISA FRYDMAN

I was still complaining about last week's back-to-school morning traffic, smarting from taking an hour to get nowhere fast, when my own private concerns were slammed into proportion by the news that one little boy had borrowed his mother's scarf, wrapped it around his not quite 12-year-old neck and taken his own life.

to but himself - and if that self isn't strong enough to take the heat unthinkable tragedy may strike, as it did last week.

WE CAN sit back and shake our heads, all the while eyeing our kids' new backpacks thankfully, knowing their books are safely tucked inside.

We cannot bring that little boy back, but we can point the finger at the system that swallowed him up.

That system says parents must pay school dues, or else books (when bought in bulk and distributed by the school) will be withheld from their children.

According to one administrator at the boy's school, "To the best of my knowledge no books have ever been withheld from children who cannot pay (the NIS 1,200 dues) - but we need to send the parents messages via the children, to remind the parents to pay."

In other words, the authorities use children as the ultimate weapon to pressure parents to pay up. And if the parents don't, can't or won't, the way opens up to the unthinkable.

I keep remembering the suicide note the boy left behind. "Why," he wrote his parents, "why didn't you pay the school dues?"

Enter our education spin doctors, who sped to the scene to let the system off the hook. Each had his own soundtrack to lament the sad, sad situation.

I listened to their remarks and longed to scream out: "Cut the crap. The minute that little boy - or any other child - walked into a classroom empty-handed, something should have been done to rectify the situation."

Is it fair for a disadvantaged child to be served a double whammy? Is it fair that he or she should have to cope with poverty at home and then have no way out in our

Dry Bones



"free" educational system? Instead of sending "messages" home via the children, our educators should take care to insure that needy kids aren't made to feel different from their peers. I wasn't there. I don't know the boy's family, his friends, his neighborhood or his teachers. But a little compassion in this case might perhaps have made all the difference. The children at the boy's school have, of course, been left traumatized. They have also, young as they are, been brutally taught that money is more important than anything else. Is this really the message the school system wants to impart? School is supposed to give pupils food for thought. Every one of us must take the responsibility for making sure we have a society where none of our children end up starved. What happened last week to a little guy who had no one to turn to should make everyone connected with the education system think long and hard about cause and effect, and about the kind of messages they are sending our children. The writer is a freelancer living in Jerusalem.

Undermining visit

KNESSET committees are meant to review government policy, criticize if necessary, and sometimes even make decisions in opposition to the government if they are within the committee's purview. It is quite another matter for a Knesset committee to undertake extracurricular activities which actively undermine government policy, especially on sensitive issues that are outside of the scope of the committee's defined purpose. This is precisely what occurred in yesterday's strange Knesset Interior Committee visit to Faisal Hussein's office at Orient House.

Successive Israeli governments, both Labor-led and Likud-led, have attempted to prevent the Orient House from receiving any form of official recognition, either locally or internationally. With negotiations on the future status of Jerusalem slated to take place over the next three years, the establishment of precedents with respect to any official Palestinian presence in Jerusalem takes on a large measure of importance. This is especially true of Orient House.

Even if Orient House were merely claiming to be an alternative to the Jerusalem municipality, its existence would be a challenge to the Israeli consensus that Jerusalem must remain united under Israeli control. But Orient House claims to be much more. With Faisal Hussein widely recognized as holding the Jerusalem Affairs portfolio within the Palestinian Authority cabinet - even if Hussein himself is careful not to publicly assume that title - Orient House has become a symbol of Palestinian Authority presence in Jerusalem.

Most importantly, Orient House is a site regularly visited by foreign dignitaries as part of their consultations with PA officials, giving it a status approaching that of a foreign ministry office and signaling international support of the idea of Jerusalem as the future capital of a Palestinian state.

Indeed, Foreign Minister David Levy spent the better part of his visit to Dublin last week attempting to persuade the European Union "troika" composed of Ireland, the Netherlands and Italy to cancel plans to visit the Orient House during its fact-finding mission to the Middle East later this year. Despite Levy's efforts, Ireland, which holds the rotating presidency of the EU, is reportedly determined to go

ahead with the planned visit, further underscoring the important position Orient House has attained; tellingly, an Irish official has been quoted as saying that "if it's not the Orient House, there is no point in going."

Yesterday's Knesset Interior Committee trip undercut the government's efforts to prevent high-level foreign visits to Orient House. It will now be difficult for government representatives to argue against such visits when a committee from Israel's own Knesset is willing to grant the building and Hussein an official visit "to discuss matters concerning the residents of eastern Jerusalem," in the words of committee chairman Salah Tarif (Labor).

The undermining of foreign policy is even more inappropriate coming from a committee whose mandate is defined as interior affairs. Tarif's claim that the visit was meant only to deal with matters concerning eastern Jerusalem that are within the committee's purview smacks of false naivete, given Hussein's public position and the bipartisan insistence in Israel of maintaining the role of the Jerusalem Municipality as the sole local authority in Jerusalem.

The fact that three MK's, Benny Elon, Ze'ev Boim and Avraham Stern, were prevented from entering even the grounds of the Orient House by Palestinian guards also raises a number of questions. Although Elon's request for police accompaniment during the visit was demonstrative and exaggerated, it is a fact that the Israel Police has for a number of years treated Orient House as a de facto extraterritorial site, akin to a foreign embassy.

This policy is an additional factor undermining the government's claim that it is making all possible efforts to block any official Palestinian presence in Jerusalem, and Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani would do well to review it. Given the persistent accounts of Palestinian undercover police activity in Jerusalem, some of it reportedly connected to Orient House and questions as to whether the PA has actually closed or moved three of its offices that had been operating in eastern Jerusalem, a review of this kid-gloves policy is of special importance.

The government cannot afford to drop its guard if it intends to remain in control of the capital.

What does it say about the system when a child kills himself because he has no schoolbooks?

day of school like most of the other kids, he also had no books. Kids being kids, his classmates had made fun of him, not realizing how cruel they were being, not appreciating the profound impact of their taunts.

We can all remember the fat kids getting it, the teasing the "carrot-heads" received, how the crybabies were ridiculed instead of comforted. My own particular share was being called "Four-Eyes" - and that even before I was old enough to have heard the mocking "Men don't make passes at girls who wear glasses."

But the chubby, the redheads, the cryers and the bespectacled as usually, at the end of the day, run home to Mom and Dad and share the pain of being "different."

A kid without books can't, because his parents are the ones he blames for his predicament. A kid without books has no one to turn

A case of might versus right

PETROS EFTYCHIOU

A number of articles and commentaries have been published recently in the international media concerning the Cyprus problem. Most of them showed at least a modicum of respect regarding the cold-blooded killing of unarmed demonstrators that took place recently in Cyprus.

There were of course notable exceptions, commentaries which took it upon themselves to "justify" the unjustifiable, to cynically inform the victims of the ongoing Cypriot tragedy that no matter what befalls them, it is their own fault. These commentaries displayed great familiarity with Turkey's method of argument, trying to "explain away" its invasion and continuing occupation of 38 percent of the territory of the Republic of Cyprus.

Following the recent tragic events in Cyprus during which one Greek Cypriot was lynched by, among others, uniformed Turks and another was shot to death by the Turkish occupation troops, we have been hearing - primarily from Turkish sources - that the only way to solve the Cyprus problem is to keep the island partitioned and Greek and Turkish Cypriots apart.

This position has been the primary Turkish objective for decades. The said tragic events are being used as a pretext for Turkey to promote its interests.

The call for viewing the Cyprus problem from a realpolitik angle is no more than an attempt to mask where the problem really lies.

To understand the roots of the problem, some historical background is necessary: Cyprus became independent in 1960 after four years of an armed struggle in which it faced not only the colonial power of the day but organized military activity on the part of Turkey as well. In the early 1950s Turkey, in cooperation with the current Turkish Cypriot leader, Mr. Denktash, set up the Volkan underground militant organization whose sole objective was partitioning Cyprus, or as their slogan, had it, *Taksim* (partition). Tactically, the prime objective

of Turkey and its collaborators in Cyprus was to try to show that Greek and Turkish Cypriots couldn't live with each other, as they had been doing for centuries, and that they should be separated and the island partitioned.

Denktash has admitted this in some of his publications, saying that he had organized for reasons of provocation a number of violent attacks even against Turkish interests in Cyprus. (i.e. bombing of the Turkish press office in

FURTHER proof of Turkey's intentions toward Cyprus is given by then Turkish foreign minister F. Koprulu who stated in 1954 (six years before the establishment of the republic) that "Cyprus is an extension of Turkey. It should revert to Turkey on the basis of geographical proximity."

The above Turkish statements and activities took place well before 1974, when Turkey seized the opportunity offered by the coup d'etat against the govern-

ment of the Republic of Cyprus in order to invade and militarily occupy 38 percent of its territory.

In the face of Turkey's own admissions, cited above, how could anyone deny their real objectives in Cyprus? To claim, as some do, that the victims of Turkey's aggression are themselves to blame for all that has befallen them is nothing short of audacious.

Let us recall the brutal consequences of the Turkish invasion, which they themselves call the "Attila operation": Using 35,000 troops and supported by its air force and navy Turkey invaded Cyprus on July 20, 1974. In the span of one month it occupied 38 percent of the territory of the Republic of Cyprus and forcefully evicted 167,000 Greek Cypriots (one-third of the population of Cyprus) from their homes, turning them into refugees in their own country.

Over 4,000 Greek Cypriots were killed by the invading forces and another 1,619 of all ages, proven alive after the end of hostilities, have been missing since 1974.

The invasion has been condemned by numerous UN General Assembly and Security Council resolutions, yet Turkey has to date

ignored the international community's verdict. Turkey continues to maintain 35,000 fully-armed occupation troops in Cyprus (in contrast to the 10,000-strong National Guard of the Republic).

The most pertinent way to describe Turkey's policy in Cyprus is to call it a blatant case of ethnic cleansing. This is not a new practice for Turkey, which has for years practised it ruthlessly against various minorities both within and beyond its borders.

Another consequence of Turkey's invasion of Cyprus, often hushed up, is that since 1974, when Turkey invaded and occupied part of the Republic of Cyprus, 25 percent of the Turkish Cypriot community (about 40,000 people) have left Cyprus and emigrated to a number of other countries. In their place and in the place of the displaced Greek Cypriots, Turkey has transplanted 80,000 of its own citizens.

This information clearly indicates Turkey's intention to create a Turkish majority in the occupied part of Cyprus, which has never had any relations with the Greek Cypriot community - thus hoping to make rapprochement impossible.

Turkey and its collaborators in Cyprus know that, unprovoked, the two Cypriot communities can resolve their differences and live together, as they did for more than 300 years.

It is for this reason that Turkey constantly foments conflict situations in Cyprus - in order to strengthen its claims for partition. The problem in finding a resolution in Cyprus is not a lack of proposed solutions but rather, as the UN secretary-general put it in a relevant report to the Security Council, "the lack of political will on the Turkish side for reaching a solution."

Recent events in Cyprus did not, as some would have us believe, prove that the two Cypriot communities cannot live with each other. On the contrary, they showed who is responsible for continuing separation on the island. The writer is ambassador of the Republic of Cyprus.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

LEADERS AND LOSERS

Sir, - Yossi Beilin, in his "Under-served compliment" (August 20), dismisses US Republican vice-presidential candidate Jack Kemp's comparison of Prime Minister Netanyahu to former presidents Lincoln and Reagan as "half-right."

Mr. Beilin argues that Netanyahu is a long way from Lincoln, "a self-made champion of ethics who took the historic decision to put an end to slavery and create a nation [sic] with a bloody civil war." Continuing his garbled recollection of history, the former minister without portfolio claims that, by contrast, our prime minister indeed has much in common with the "pathetic," "sound-bite" Reagan who was "amazingly elected to a second term at the age of 73" as "his wife Nancy decided the future with her astrological charts."

Coming within a week of Mrs. Reagan's moving tribute to her ailing husband, it comes as a particularly cheap shot and an insult to all Americans. And, as the devoted "poodle" of an elder statesman who tried and failed for the fifth time to be elected prime minister, writing in the same week as MK Peres's 73rd birthday, Beilin would seem to be either crying sour grapes or projecting deflected Freudian frustration at the failure of his mentor to continue paving his path to power.

When will Mr. Beilin and his comrades recognize that precisely their arrogance and pretense to intellectual superiority caused them to forfeit the confidence of the majority of Israel's citizens? They used government agents to delegitimize the opposition, calling them allies of the Hamas. They discarded pre-election commitments to stay on the Golan and to not recognize the PLO. They negotiated with enemy agents when it was illegal to do so. Orchestrated by Mr. Beilin, they secretly, in academic guise and through diplomatic "non-papers," sought to divide Jerusalem, even as they vehemently denied doing so. They nearly divided the nation and plunged it into a bloody civil war.

Mr. Beilin dares accuse Prime Minister Netanyahu of betraying campaign promises and deceiving the nation even before he has had one hundred days to prove himself.

It would seem, on the bottom line, that what bothers Mr. Beilin most about Netanyahu and Reagan is that these men won the majority support of their respective democracies, against his superior judgment. Most of the people, he implies, were fooled. Some, the smart ones like him, were not.

That's the way it is with born leaders. Born losers can't stand them.

DISCONTENTED VOTER

Sir, - Like many others, I approached with the utmost seriousness the opportunity to participate in the making of Israel's geographic and political future, in an effort to decide my preferences for Israel's 1996 national elections.

When the dust had settled and my man for the office had been found the loser, I took the news of the election results well. I was sure that the Labor party would serve the country as a loyal yet fully politically active opposition. And, as to the victors, I was confident that a Bibi-led government would ultimately prove beneficial to Israel, that over the next four years we would become a stronger and more united Israel.

What I have seen since the end of May has significantly reduced my confidence in the Israeli political system, if not Israeli society as a whole. The new government, with its internal bickering, indecision and PR sheen, is an embarrassment. It collectively speaks in 20 different tongues, claiming a desire to continue the peace process while flagrantly and stupidly thumbing its nose at its negotiation partners. Moreover, its house is a mess and its ranks are divided. It is in no way project an image of strength and it does not convince that it has anything approaching a plan for molding the fate of the country.

The opposition, however, is no better. Indeed, I wonder if it is worse. I applaud the efforts of Peres and others to continue to build and maintain the bridges to peace. However, I cannot understand the benefit of damaging nationwide strikes or fear-spreading declarations of a coming war with Syria. Such efforts undermine the strength of the country and foster an image of instability.

Today more than ever before the policies of our leaders must be rooted in and reflect a sensitivity for a common good. Party politicking, intra and inter, is a healthy component of the democratic system, but not when partisan moves take precedence over collective and individual survival. Such is the lesson of the failure of the Jewish polity of 2,000 years ago. It would be a terrific shame if the mistakes of the past recur today.

DR. MORRIS GOLDMAN Tel Aviv.

EXTREME LANGUAGE

Sir, - Once again we are witness to the classic double standard of the "enlightened" left. The grossest, most patronizing insults directed against the religious "primitives" that appear time and again in print and on the air are accepted with equanimity under the principles of freedom of expression, pluralism, tolerance, etc. But let the religious camp hit back in kind, and cries of incitement, rebellion, anti-democracy fill the air.

Many prominent people with no connection to the hereinaud have expressed uneasiness at Chief Justice Barak's philosophy of extending the Supreme Court's authority into all sorts of problems where the key issues are not judicial niceties, but rather political and social realities. A Supreme Court that is never subjected to popular evaluation, but is in essence a self-perpetuating clone of the secular community, can hardly be accepted as the sole, final arbiter in matters that affect the deepest feelings of observant Jews. A degree of control by a popularly elected legislature is surely in order when basic problems arise between the religious and secular communities.

Furthermore, the hysteria shown by leading radio and TV commentators concerning the harsh language of hardi proclamations is simply another demonstration of the former's massive ignorance of the hardi community. At any given time, the streets of Mea She'arim and Geula are plastered with declarations issued by local, rival groups against each other or against immodesty of dress, and so on, expressed in the most extreme, horrific language. This "literary" style is simply the reverse of the exaggerated praise heaped upon an author or scholar who finds favor in the eyes of the writer, and has as little meaning in the one direction as in the other.

DR. MORRIS GOLDMAN Tel Aviv.

AVI REMBAUM Tel Aviv.

POSTSCRIPTS

THE PERUVIAN army has ordered a whole city to stay home and clean up its yards.

To rid Pucallpa of dirty rainwater stagnating in discarded containers, the jungle city's 250,000 residents were placed under curfew.

The army stood by to ensure the 24-hour curfew from Saturday to Sunday evening was not wasted on barbecues or parties but used to "throw away (tins, bottles, coconut shells or any other junk," army commander Juan Bosco said.

The measure is for the untidy Pucallpans' own good, because mosquitoes transmitting deadly dengue disease breed in dirty rainwater. Bosco said.

A BRITISH prisoner trying to escape from jail spent two days coloring his body with a fluorescent yellow felt pen to make his wardens think he had jaundice.

The inmate, serving six years for armed robbery at Parkhurst prison, hoped he would be transferred to a hospital, from which it would be easier to break out.

The plan failed when a prison officer looked into his cell and saw the inmate coloring his face.

"He had carefully painted all his body - even his private parts," one warden said. "He had made such a good job of it. He was a very bright yellow indeed."

"He would probably have died from jaundice if he was suffering

an attack so severe that it turned his skin that color."

BILL HALE is one of the few furniture makers who will guarantee his product for more than a lifetime.

Hale's coffee tables, bookcases, liquor cabinets and blanket chests all are designed to go with their owners to their graves.

"Everybody laughs at me at first, but once I explain it, everybody goes, 'Hmmm, good idea,'" says Hale, owner of the Down to Earth Coffin Company in Webster, New Hampshire.

Hale makes coffins. But because most people don't plan far enough ahead to buy their own, he has found uses for his products

before they reach their final resting places.

"It makes a great liquor cabinet," Hale says. He also will install temporary shelves inside for books or paintings on a specially made door so a coffin can double as a gun cabinet.

Virginia O'Connor of Plymouth keeps her coffin, a plain pine casket with rope handles, in her living room.

"We use it for a coffee table," says O'Connor, 70. "I call it my coffin table. The kids kneel down and do coloring books and puzzles on it. It's very, very handy."

"There are some people who want some input in what they're planted in," Hale says.

Handwritten text in a box: 150 من الاصل

Ideas & Trends

From Grains of Sand: A World of Order

By GEORGE JOHNSON

HIKING the mesas and canyons of northern New Mexico, a visitor is occasionally startled to find a shard of broken pottery decorated with intricate geometrical designs. The Anasazi, who lived here hundreds of years ago, craved not only food and sunlight but pattern. Not all the symmetries found along the trail are artificial: spiraling pine cones, shimmering crystals, radiating petals of flowers. There seems to be something natural, almost effortless, about the way pattern arises in nature — with or without the help of human hands.

Last week in the journal *Nature*, scientists at the University of Texas and the University of Santiago in Chile described a remarkable experiment in which they tapped into nature's self-organizing flow. Jiggling a layer of sand at just the right rhythm caused patterns of circular peaks and craters to emerge. Sometimes these vibrating structures — dubbed oscillons — joined to form larger patterns, which came together to form still more intricate designs. The photographs of this naturally arising order call to mind the process of subatomic particles combining to form atoms, and atoms to form molecules and crystals — science's Great Chain of Being.

A Pattern in Patterns

It is hard not to let the imagination run wild. Could real particles — the quarks and leptons of particle physics — be created from the jostlings of some kind of incredibly tiny subatomic sand? With the right rhythms, could scientists jostle their sandboxes so that the "molecules" combined to form cells, and the cells joined with other cells to produce some weird artificial life?

These are the kinds of speculative leaps you sometimes hear when hanging out with complexity theorists. But behind the fantasies is a serious, sober effort to understand one of science's most engaging mysteries: how order emerges in the world. Experiments like the

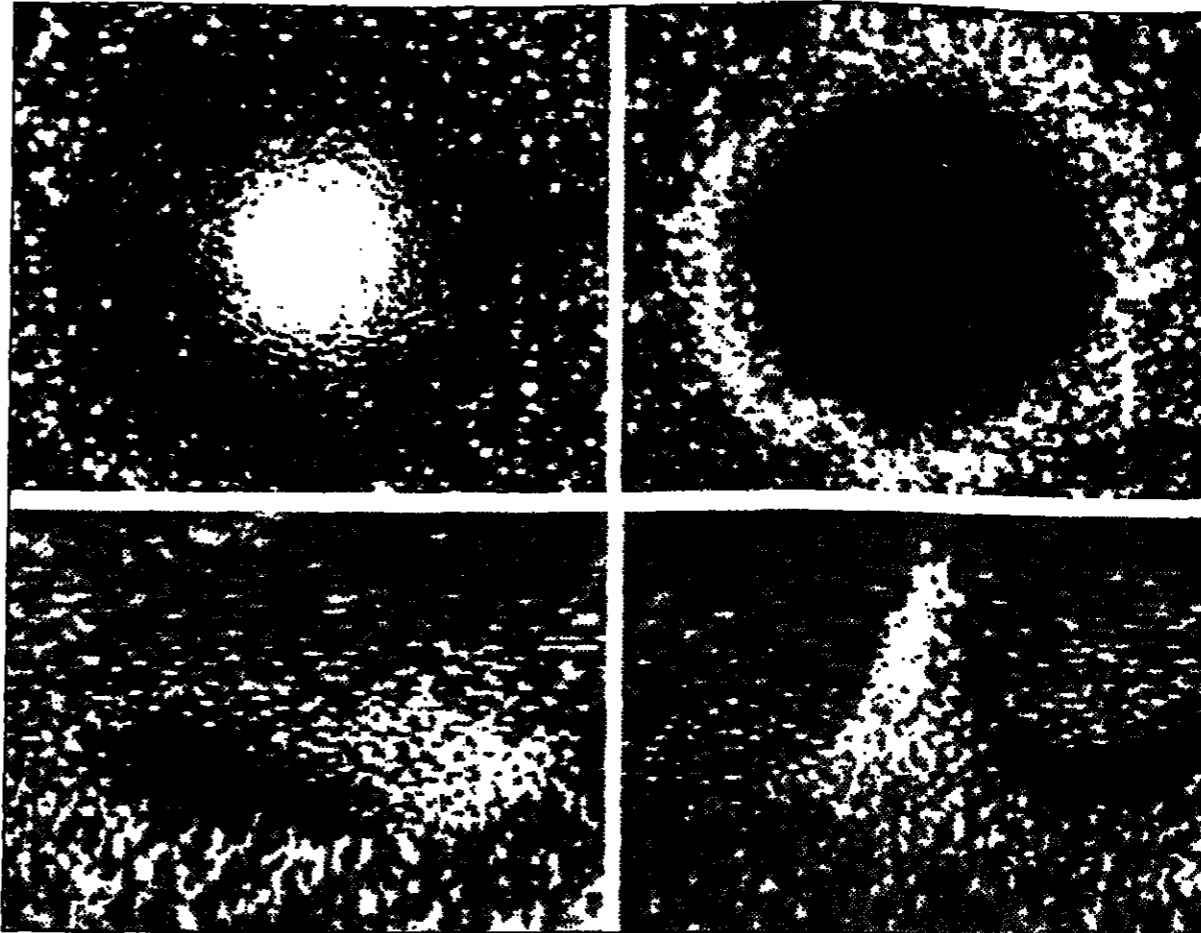
one described in *Nature* show that masses of identical tokens (like the sand grains), each capable of interacting only with its immediate neighbors, can spontaneously generate intricate patterns. Then these patterns become tokens in another game, consorting with one another to form the next level in an intricate hierarchy. Simplicity gives rise to complexity.

Are More Laws Needed?

Instead of grains of sand, think of neurons in a brain, each communicating only with its neighbors and yet generating the far-reaching patterns of thought. Or think of traders buying and selling, each of these purely selfish exchanges giving rise to the blind, overarching forces of the marketplace, Adam Smith's invisible hand. In all these examples, there is no need of a Grand Conductor, looking down from above and orchestrating the flow. The order bubbles up from below, as though something universal were going on.

Murray Gell-Mann, the Nobel prize-winning physicist who helped found the Santa Fe Institute, a leading center for the study of complex systems, succinctly summarized the mystery in the title of his book, "The Quark and the Jaguar." How do you get from the very, simple — like the quarks Dr. Gell-Mann discovered — to creatures with drives and desires of their own? You cannot predict what the jaguar will do from the equations of the Standard Model, the body of law governing subatomic particles. But surely there is nothing about jaguars — which are made, after all, from quarks — that defies the fundamental laws of physics.

Is there a parallel between sand grains cooperating to form oscillons and quarks cooperating to form the particles that form the atoms that form jaguars? Stuart Kauffman, Dr. Gell-Mann's colleague and sometime antagonist at the Santa Fe Institute, believes that the laws we already know are not enough to understand these great towers of complexity. Something extra is needed — a grand principle that would explain how order inexorably arises in the world. In his view, it is not by chance that molecules in the primal sea came together to form the first self-reproducing cell, the grandparent of us all. The



Vibrating granule-sized brass spheres, seen from above (top) and from the side (below), form peaks and dips.

chemistry was guided by yet-to-be-discovered laws of self-organization, laws that are as fundamental and irreducible as those of physics.

Not everyone agrees that so radical an approach is called for. Complexity, as Dr. Gell-Mann sees it, can be explained by the laws we already have — as long as we take into account the role of randomness. By themselves, the simple laws of physics cannot predict the evolutionary accidents that led life on earth to develop the way it did.

To go from quarks to jaguars, you need to take into account a lot of extra information — the unpredictable twists and turns of a history that could have unfolded in many different ways. The wild card of randomness insures that the world will be filled with interesting surprises. But this complexity can be explained, though not precisely predicted, without the need of new fundamental principles.

Pondering these matters, one is inevitably led to the question of where nature's laws — the patterns that govern the patterns — come from in the first place. Do they somehow bubble up from below, emergent properties of simple interactions? In the sand experiment, the scientists discovered that their oscillons obeyed a familiar rule: opposites attract, and vice versa. A peak and a crater latch together to form a double structure. Two peaks or two craters repel each other. Is it meaningful that this is the same general law obeyed by magnets and electrically charged objects? Or is it just another of nature's coincidences?

Like the grains of sand in the experiment, we are tiny parts of a great order that we do not understand. Dressed in our checked shirts and striped blouses, as obsessively geometric as Anasazi pots, we strain to gaze beyond our tiny neighborhood and grasp the greatest patterns of all.

He's No Christie Whitman

The Tax Cut Still Leaves Dole a Poll Deficit

Continued From Page 1

apy, trimming entitlements. This year voters are increasingly content with their economic lot, according to the Times/CBS poll, and increasingly they give Mr. Clinton a fair amount of the credit. Even among the 40 percent of the electorate that says the standard of living of the next generation is not likely to improve, Mr. Dole is able to do no better than hold Mr. Clinton to a draw.

People may detest the Internal Revenue Service and the whole tax structure, but Mr. Dole has proposed no root-and-branch reform of taxes. He might have done better if he had, instead of settling for a pallid and often offhand commitment to work for a "fairer, flatter" income tax system.

As it is, the Republicans are having trouble getting people to believe them. Despite all their efforts to convince the public that their supply-side formula will make it possible to cut taxes, preserve essential services and balance the budget, all at the same time, people are growing more skeptical, not less.

Last month, shortly after Mr. Dole's proposals were unveiled, 51 percent of the electorate expressed doubts about his ability to make the tax cuts he has promised; in the latest survey, the figure rose to 64 percent —

almost two-thirds. And although voters say they trust Mr. Dole more than Mr. Clinton, an astonishing 41 percent say that if he won he would increase taxes, 35 percent say he would leave them as they are and a mere 18 percent say he would actually cut them.

A big reason may be Mr. Dole's own record. He is a belated convert to supply-side economics, recruited by Steve Forbes and others after a political lifetime of loudly advocating spending cuts before tax cuts. Indeed, he still describes himself, in unguarded moments on the campaign trail, as "a longtime deficit hawk" — just the sort of bird supply-siders gun for.

Rubber Numbers

Of course, it may simply be too early for the new message to sink in. Maybe by November a tax cut will prove as powerful a lure as in the past, regardless of its budget-busting potential. Mrs. Whitman, 20 percentage points down in the polls in mid-October, caught Mr. Florio at the wire, winning by only 25,000 votes.

There is plenty of evidence that Americans still shrink from difficult budgetary decisions, especially if they believe their own benefits are imperiled.

In the last two years, Newt Gingrich has confronted, far more squarely than the Clin-



Bob Dole and his wife, Elizabeth, at a rally last month in Chicago.

Dole shows his supply side; voters show their skeptical side.

ton Administration has ever done, the kinds of spending cuts long-term deficit-elimination would entail, and that, along with his abrasive advocacy, has earned him a political black eye.

But perhaps Americans are growing more sophisticated in evaluating the rubber numbers that politicians love so dearly at campaign time.

Former Vice President Walter F. Mondale, who earned a spot in political annals for his self-immolating advocacy of a deficit-fighting tax increase in the 1984 Presidential campaign, said the other evening: "The difference is that the public has had a taste of Reaganomics and its deficits. Then they had n't, so I got crucified." Dole, Kemp & Co. insist, of course, that if supply-side economics had been applied rigorously, the deficit would have shrunk, not grown.

Such would be the result of their own plans, they argue, but the public seems to disagree.

Campaigning on Portents of Doom and Boom

By TIMOTHY EGAN

BILL CLINTON, while walking across your bridge to the 21st century, take a long look back at the middle part of this one. Divorce was rare and most children were born into two-parent families.

Bob Dole, while harkening back to a country that you say was better and more civil, say hello to the early days of the 20th century, when Jim Crow was enforced formally in the South, informally elsewhere, and about 1 of 200 Americans was addicted to cocaine or opium.

This year, the quadrennial political debate over just how bad things are is joined by the sound of fin-de-siècle sirens for the death of character, spirituality and even Tuesday-night bowling leagues. This prompts some social critics to say we have simply become a nation of whiners.

Still, the fog of gloom refuses to lift in many quarters. It is good for the ballroom, book publishers, preachers and political underdogs.

But beyond people who may have a stake in a glass-half-empty view, the persistent sense of decline seems to have taken on a life of its own.

Perceptions and Election Targets

The Presidential race, on a significant level, is about crafting a narrative that fits with people's perceptions of their lives. Challengers, be they Bob Dole or Ross Perot, usually say the country has gone to hell. Incumbents say things are looking up.

Recent polling indicates that this durable equation may not work as expected this year. The New York Times/CBS News Poll finds the public raising the economy the best since 1988, giving credit to the President. Even the pessimists, those most anxious about the state of their lives, are leaning toward Mr. Clinton.

It's standard procedure. Challengers say the country is floundering. Incumbents say things are going swimmingly.

For Mr. Dole to convince people that he can return them to a time of "tranquility, faith and confidence in action," the nation has to feel as though its best days are behind it.

On the major issues, Mr. Dole points to decay. In San Diego, he said, "We are a nation paralyzed by crime," with "the lowest education achievers among the leading industrial nations," a place where "drug use has soared among the young." As for general prosperity, Mr. Dole says, taxes are up, wages are down and the overall economy "is in the tank."

For President Clinton, optimism has replaced the fears that he himself stoked four years ago, when he decreed a nation where most Americans "work harder and earn less." At the 1992 convention the Democrats sounded exactly like Bob Dole does today, and portrayed a country of "decline, decay and deception."

Now, Mr. Clinton trumpets the 10 million new jobs created on his watch, and tries to dispel the effect of people who respond, "Yeah, and I've got three of them." Americans have become so accustomed to quantum leaps in their quality of life that any leveling off is seen as decline, says Robert J. Samuelson, author of "The Good Life and Its Discontents: The American Dream in the Age of Entitlement." "We expected that life in all its aspects would constantly improve," he writes. "Our

present extreme pessimism is merely the mirror image of this earlier extreme optimism. Neither is justified."

At some point in the coming weeks before the election, most Americans are likely to ask: How bad is it now? Or, put the other way: how good was it before? While statistics can be marshaled to go in any direction, some general truths emerge:

The economy. For the last 20 years, median wages adjusted for inflation have remained flat. The gulf between the rich and the poor is great.

But the American economy is now in the best shape of any modern democracy, creating so many new jobs that many areas are reporting acute labor shortages. As a result, wages are finally edging up. Home ownership is the highest it's been in two decades.

What's more, despite widespread anxiety over corporate downsizing, nearly two-thirds of the new jobs created in the last two years were in areas that paid higher than the median wage, according to a recent Government report.

Americans, however, see something else. The latest New York Times/CBS News Poll found that 68 percent of the people surveyed thought it was somewhat or very hard to find a good job at good wages locally.

Drugs and crime. Drug use among teen-agers jumped 80 percent since Mr. Clinton took office, but the number of Americans who said they used an illicit drug dropped to 12 million this year from 22 million in 1984.

Serious crime dropped last year for the fourth consecutive year, especially homicide. Arguably, Americans are safer compared to 10 years ago but not compared to the 1940's or 1950's.

Health. About 40 million Americans lack health insurance. One in three is overweight. But many life-threatening diseases now have cures. Also, with the advent of Medicare in 1965 came the first generation of elderly Americans free of fears that even a relatively minor illness could bankrupt them.

Education. In 1945 just 5 percent of American adults were college graduates.

degrees. Last year, 25 percent had college degrees; 81 percent had finished high school. And for the first time the percentage of black high school graduates roughly equals that of whites.

Still, dropout rates are high, and American test scores lag behind those of other industrial nations.

Morals. Though a tough thing to measure, this has been a hardy perennial in books and speeches on decline. In 1945, 3.9 percent of children were born out of wedlock; last year, 31 percent were. Divorce, in the last 30 years, has nearly quadrupled, but shows signs of leveling off.

Church attendance has declined, with about 37 percent of Americans attending once a week. But this is still higher than in any other industrial country.

On a more abstract scale, shame is not what it used to be. Witness the fact that the former Presidential consultant Dick Morris, who resigned after allegations that he had patronized a call girl, can follow the now-familiar track from disgrace to book contract in a week's time.

Compared to What?

For all the numbers, most people see a better world or a bleaker one based simply on what they are used to, says Alan Ehrenhalt, the editor of *Governing* magazine and author of a new book on communities in the 1950's titled "The Lost City."

Mr. Ehrenhalt says the 1950's were viewed as an ideal time because what came before it, the Depression and global war, was so awful.

"People lived better than they ever thought they would," he said. "Now, we don't seem to trust the future to any great extent. There is a profound absence of the sense of the possible."

Even Presidential optimism is not what it used to be. Whereas President Kennedy said, "Man holds in his hands the power to abolish all forms of human poverty," President Clinton seems to have said, "Man holds in his hands the power to abolish all forms of human poverty."

Ideas & Trends

Just a Little Inflation, And Everybody's Happy

By LOUIS UCHITELLE

A NEW theme is gradually inserting itself into the debate over inflation. The traditional stance — beat down inflation — still draws plenty of applause. But after a long spell of mild inflation, economists, politicians and corporate executives are migrating toward the view that the present inflation rate should be preserved, perhaps nourished.

The hammerlock that the anti-inflation battle has had on economic policy is easing up. There is more talk of economic growth and job security as issues that should be higher on the national agenda than fighting inflation. And there is more talk now, even at a conference last weekend sponsored by the Federal Reserve — the premier inflation fighter — of the damage that could result from pushing the inflation rate to too low a level.

The Threat Is Gone

"What people seem to be recognizing is that we no longer seem to be threatened with accelerating inflation as we were in the 70's and 80's," said Paul M. Romer, an economist at the University of California at Berkeley. "There is still a group arguing for an inflation rate of 2 percent or less, but most economists, without saying so explicitly, now favor an annual inflation rate that ranges between 2 and 4 percent."

Various business organizations, including the Chamber of Commerce and the National Association of Manufacturers, argue increasingly that fighting inflation, when it is already sufficiently mild, is incompatible with their goal of increasing the demand for what corporate America sells. Similarly, the layoffs and wage stagnation that have plagued the nation in recent years are widely viewed by unions and by many workers as a by-product of the Federal Reserve's effort to soften the economy and thus push down an inflation rate that is already low.

For the last four years, inflation has risen at an annual rate of 3 percent or less. It is 2.9 percent for the 12-

month period through July, as measured by the Consumer Price Index. That is significantly lower than the rates — generally, 4 percent or more — that prevailed from the late 1980's until the early 1990's.

"Inflation is just not a cutting-edge public issue anymore," said Richard Nelsen, a Columbia University economist, "but there is obviously very widespread concern that incomes are rising very, very slowly."

Whatever the shift in priorities, the Federal Reserve, which has the power to fight inflation by keeping interest rates up, has not eased up on inflation fighting. Alan Greenspan, the Fed chairman, has expressed sympathy in public testimony for the emerging view that times have changed. But the latest published minutes of the Fed's deliberations portray the central bank's policymakers as favoring, as usual, "some additional progress in reducing inflation."

So far, President Clinton and Bob Dole are not mentioning inflation in their election campaigns, preferring instead to stress their formulas for growth and prosperity, as if inflation weren't a factor. Among other reasons, neither party wants to risk arousing the ire of the financial markets, which for years have raised a hue and cry at any attempt to push for more economic growth or for full employment at the risk of raising the inflation rate.

That is still a red flag on Wall Street, but it is not quite as high as it was. "This is the first time in years that we have inflation low enough for a long enough period to have a debate over how much growth is possible," said David M. Jones, chief economist at Aubrey G. Lanston, a Wall Street bond house. "We are at a moment when the bond market is allowing this national debate."

The debate is not a new one, of course. For generations, two camps have existed. One is composed mainly of people, usually wealthy people, whose main concern is to preserve the value — the purchasing power — of the wealth they have accumulated. Rising inflation can devalue these savings, which are held mainly in notes and bonds.



Consumer demand is in demand again. A Fremont, Calif., gas station ran dry during a promotion last April.

The other camp includes those who benefit from an economy that thrives at the cost of some inflation. Among them are wage earners counting on raises, retailers and manufacturers counting on a little inflation to help raise prices, homeowners who like to see their property values rise, and people in debt, who find that inflation can make their debts easier to repay.

Same Old Dispute

The struggle between these groups gave rise to the Midwestern populists (pro-inflation) who opposed the Eastern establishment (anti-inflation) in the 19th century, the free silver (pro-inflation) vs. gold standard (anti-inflation) debate, hard money (anti-inflation) vs. easy money (pro-inflation) and, most recently, tight monetary policy (anti-inflation) vs. easy policy. The terms have changed, but for more than a century the issue has been basically the same.

Over the last 18 years, the anti-inflationists have been the big winners, beneficiaries of the nation's reaction to the 12 and 13 percent inflation rates in the late 1970's and early 1980's, which upset everyone. For a

while, the winners spoke of driving the inflation rate down to zero, and some in this camp still argue that a zero inflation rate would encourage more savings and investment.

Only now, after four years of persistently mild inflation, has the pro-inflation viewpoint begun to be heard again. Increasingly, its proponents note, for example, that Government statistics probably overstate inflation, so that the already-low rate of 3 percent might really be only 1.5 percent, or even less. Indeed, zero inflation might have already arrived. If so, further efforts to drive down inflation would result in deflation.

Other arguments are also surfacing. Three economists from the Brookings Institution, in a new study that was discussed at the Federal Reserve conference last weekend, argued that the costs of driving the inflation rate down to zero from 3 percent would outweigh any gain. The economy would slow, encouraging layoffs and driving up the unemployment rate by 2 percentage points from its current range of 5 percent to 6 percent.

And so the debate gathers steam. "There is a span of views on inflation," Mr. Romer of Berkeley said, "that until very recently were not very well articulated."

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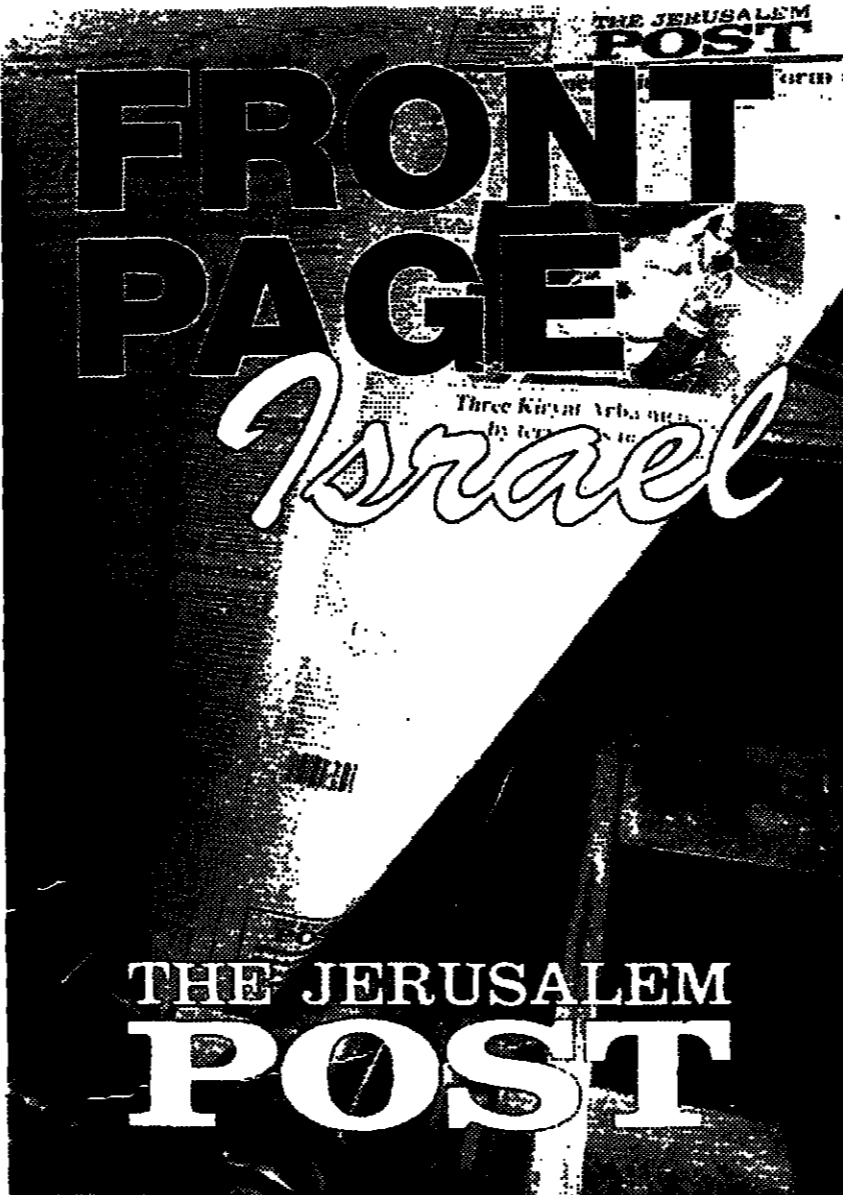
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Hussein Survives

Continued From Page 1

small to do the job. Although the Kurds in northern Iraq bear the most responsibility for the current dustup, the United States is partly responsible as well.

After setting up Operation Provide Comfort to shield the Kurds from Iraqi retribution in 1991, the United States lost control of the operation by allowing Turkey to take the lead in maintaining it. Turkey, which has problems with its own Kurds, played the two Iraqi Kurdish factions off each other and denied them economic assistance when it suited its needs. American protective flights over Iraq were greatly reduced; America's military presence on the ground decreased. Diplomatically, the United States treated the fighting between the two Kurdish factions as relatively minor.

"Washington conducted an absent-minded policy," said Morton I. Abramowitz, President of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, who was ambassador to Turkey during the gulf war. "It failed to make dealing with the enormously complex problem of northern Iraq a high enough priority."

So Saddam Hussein wound up intervening in the Kurdish struggle

The U.S. tried to shield the Kurds, but lost control.

and reasserting authority in the area. Mr. Clinton responded with missile attacks on Iraq's air defenses, but just what was accomplished?

Mr. Clinton's aides said the purpose of the raids was to send Mr. Hussein a clear message about his behavior. But the message was mixed. Granted, the missile attacks reminded Mr. Hussein that he could not do as he pleased, even in his own country. But by attacking sites in the south rather than in the north, where Iraq's tanks were deployed, the United States left the impression that it wanted Mr. Hussein to survive — just hemmed in more than before.

The fact that the north was not attacked also gives the Iraqi Kurdish factions a green light to continue their fighting — promising both Iraq and Iraq further temptations to interfere. As ominous, last week's events call into question the whole future of the American-led operation to protect the Kurdish enclave.

Finally, the episode exposes the cracks that have been opening in the international coalition formed against Iraq six years ago. The United States has much less room for maneuver than it did when Kuwait was overrun and Saudi Arabia seemed to be the next target.

On the eve of the gulf war in 1991, Mr. Bush wrote in his diary, "Hope to see the madman is gone." The hope survives, but so does Saddam.

سكرا من الاصل

ماذا من الاصل

ECONOMY

What's New at G.M.? Automobiles, for a Change

By KEITH BRADSHAW

DETROIT GENERAL MOTORS, one of America's most successful corporations, developed a reputation in the 1980's as a confused car-making bureaucracy that rolled out one look-alike product after another with little fanfare and modest sales success.

that he can successfully design, build and sell cars and mini-vans to a public that has lost much of its loyalty to G.M.'s brands.

While Mr. Smith and his team of lawyers and financial engineers get high marks for rescuing G.M.'s balance sheet and turning impressive profits in the company's lending, satellite communications, electronics and other operations outside the car business, he has yet to prove he can remake the company into an auto-making star.

"It's a huge year for us," said G. Richard Wagoner Jr., the president of G.M.'s North American operations. "This year is basically all hands on deck to get the products out."

With nearly \$170 billion in sales last year, G.M. is bigger than AT&T, I.B.M., Microsoft and Federal Express combined. And with more than 700,000 employees, it has twice the payroll of the United States Postal Service.

"They will have a very tough time launching all those vehicles," said Alexander Trotman, chairman and chief executive of the Ford Motor Company, which has substantially overhauled its product line.

G.M.'s task is especially difficult because it will be rolling out its new models over the next six months just as it tries to reach a new national

labor contract with the United Automobile Workers union. G.M. has had rough labor relations. A 17-day strike in the spring virtually shut down G.M.'s North American auto production, and another disruption could turn this fall's introductions into a chaotic mess of shortages on dealers' lots and missed opportunities.

G.M.'s vehicle introductions must be successful if the company is to meet Mr. Smith's objective of earning profits equal to an average of 5 percent of sales in good years and bad. Although G.M. earned a staggering \$6.88 billion last year, the most in corporate America, its profit margin worldwide was only 4.1 percent.

The prospects for G.M.'s shares also hang on the new models. The stock has fallen 3.3 percent over the last year, to \$47.75 on Friday, while the Standard & Poor's 500 has climbed 15 percent.

Meeting the profit targets and bolstering the stock price won't be easy. G.M. has chosen to keep prices low in many segments, preferring to sell practical value instead of pricey sizzle. That leaves cost-cutting and increased efficiency as its chief means of raising profits.

"We need to be competitive in our plants, and that's the way we're approaching this," Mr. Smith, the chairman, chief executive and president of G.M., said this summer. "We've got to keep enough flexibility that we can go in and fix the weak plants."

The new models coming out this autumn are off to an uneven start. Automotive reviewers have been impressed with the design of some of the vehicles they have seen so far, notably G.M.'s five new 1997 minivans, two of which are for export.

The 1997 Pontiac Grand Prix, a sporty midsize sedan that turns heads in parking lots and is the first of the 15 models to go on sale, looks to be a hit. Starting at \$18,579, the car, with its swooping lines and "wide track" stance, is getting a warm reception.

The problem is that they are not arriving faster. Whereas Ford cranked up its new full-sized pickup truck in six weeks, G.M. is taking six months to bring Grand Prix production to full speed at its Fairfax assembly plant in Kansas City, Kan.

"We are going to be methodical and very attentive to every detail," said Harry J. Pearce, the company's vice chairman. "It would be very inappropriate to base an assessment on any arbitrary variable, time."

The complexity of some of the new-model introductions is partly responsible for the slowness. Most

auto makers try to avoid putting many models in one factory, particularly one that has just been modernized. But G.M. plans to build all five new mini-vans in a rebuilt factory in Doraville, Ga., that used to make midsize Oldsmobile sedans.

When Donald E. Hackworth, a G.M. group vice president, rattles off the planned output at Doraville, he sounds like someone describing an entire car line instead of the output of a single factory.

If G.M. someday succeeds in producing all of these mini-vans quickly and with high quality, it will reap large savings from the economies of scale. But for now, the mini-vans are inching along the assembly line at the rate of one every 12 minutes, so as to familiarize workers with the many different procedures needed to build such a variety of vehicles.

But the Doraville plant also has some labor tension. The U.A.W. is quietly fuming that G.M. has hired outside companies to manufacture the seats, install engine brackets and apply a protective coating for the shipment of export models, a union official said.

The gentle pace of production, combined with the prospect of labor troubles, has troubled financial experts like Scott Merlis, an auto analyst in Westport, Conn., who have begun to reduce slightly their estimates of the company's third- and fourth-quarter earnings.

Indeed, John A. Casasa, an auto analyst at Schroder Wertheim & Company, worries about Japanese auto makers reaching the market first in large quantities with cars like the 1997 Toyota Camry, an acclaimed new version of the midsize sedan that goes on sale tomorrow.

Maryann N. Keller, an auto analyst at Furman Selz, a New York investment and brokerage firm, is particularly critical of the slow Grand Prix introduction.

She pointed out that auto makers can charge the most money for a car in the first year of production, when customer interest is highest.

Mr. Hackworth, who oversees the G.M. group responsible for minivans and midsize and luxury cars, defended the Grand Prix introduction by pointing out that the company had continued to keep cars flowing to dealers by building some 1996 Grand Prix models in the summer even as production of '97 models began.

Mr. Wagoner said all of G.M.'s new models would help the company's profits more than the models they replace. He contended that G.M. could start making new models quickly, as it did with the redesigned but not entirely new Saturn coupe this summer.

Yet G.M. is highly sensitive about the arrival of the Grand Prix and other new models. It has stopped releasing weekly production information on new models, breaking an auto industry tradition and making it harder for parts suppliers to fore-

AT A GLANCE

General Motors

DETROIT

World's largest corporation in revenues (excluding trading companies) makes autos and trucks and, through subsidiaries, auto components (Delphi Automotive Systems), loans and leases (GM A.C.) and electronic systems (Hughes Electronics).

EMPLOYEES 709,000

FINANCIAL INDICATORS

Friday's close \$47.75

52-week low, high \$43.375; \$58.125

Market capitalization \$36.5 billion

1995 sales \$168.6 billion

1995 earnings \$6.9 billion or \$7.21 a share

Estimated 1996 earnings, consensus, average \$6.17 a share

Debt-to-capital ratio 22.8%

Price to estimated 1996 earnings 8.2

Price to book 1.8

Dividend yield 3.3%

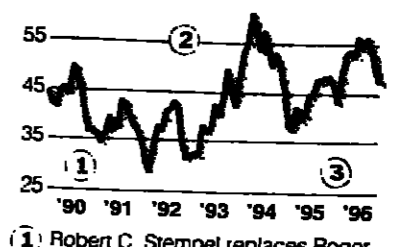
THINGS TO WATCH

The company's labor contracts with its main unions in the United States and Canada expire at midnight next Saturday. Union workers could stage a highly disruptive strike later this fall.

G.M. plans to come out with 15 new models by spring. The monthly sales figures should provide a signal of whether buyers like them.

If G.M. can conclude new labor contracts without costly strikes, the company may raise its dividend.

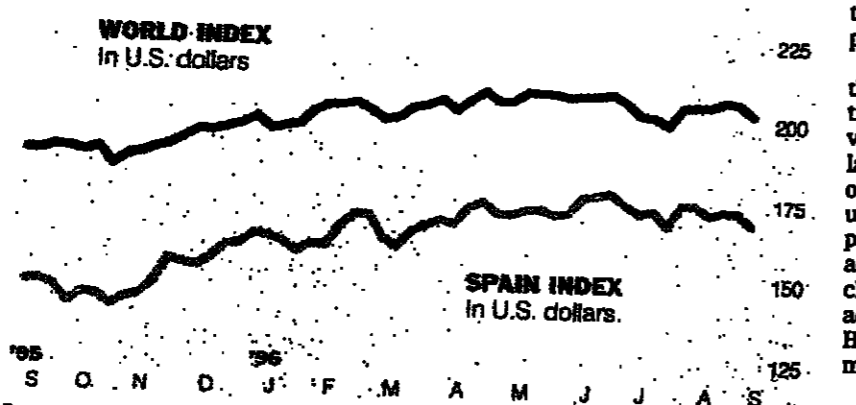
STOCK PRICE



- 1) Robert C. Stempel replaces Roger B. Smith as chairman and C.E.O.
- 2) John F. Smith Jr. becomes C.E.O. and John G. Smiale becomes chairman.
- 3) John F. Smith Jr. replaces Smiale as chairman and stays C.E.O.

Sources: Bloomberg Financial Markets, Datastream

WORLD STOCK MARKETS



Prepared by Goldman, Sachs & Co. using data derived from the Financial Times/Standard & Poor's Acquisitions World Indices, a measure of stock market performance. The FT Indices are compiled jointly by The Financial Times Limited, Goldman, Sachs & Co. and Standard & Poor's, in conjunction with the Institute of Actuaries and Faculty of Actuaries.

PERFORMANCE IN U.S. DOLLARS

Table with columns: Country, Index, Week % Chg, Week Rank, YTD % Chg, YTD Rank, Dividend Yield, Index, YTD % Chg. Lists performance for various countries like Australia, Austria, Belgium, etc.

COMPOSITE INDICES

Table with columns: Index, Week % Chg, YTD % Chg, Index, YTD % Chg. Lists Europe, Pacific Basin, Europe/Pacific, World.

Source: Goldman, Sachs & Co. Exchange rates as of Friday's London close. © 1996 The Financial Times Ltd., Goldman, Sachs & Co. and Standard & Poor's.

CURRENCIES

Table with columns: Exchange rate, Friday, Last Friday, Week % Chg, Year Ago. Lists Japanese yen, German marks, Canadian dollars, U.S. dollars to British pound.

Source: Bloomberg Financial Markets; exchange rates as of Friday's New York close.

Husserl Survive

The U.S. shield the K... but lost con...

Sept. 2-9: Stocks and Bonds Rally on Relief That Jobs Report May Not Force a Big Rate Hike

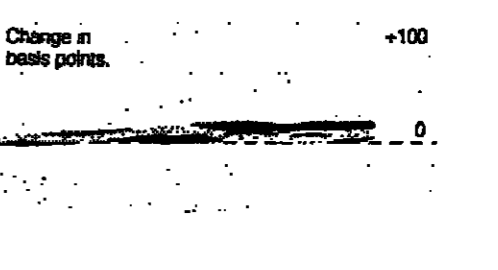
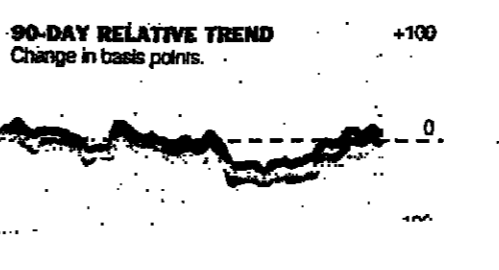
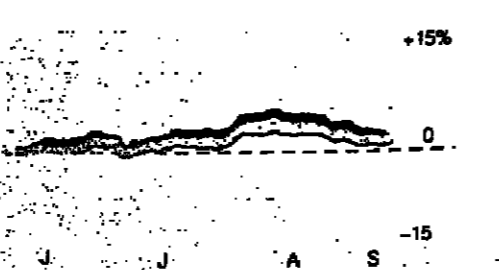
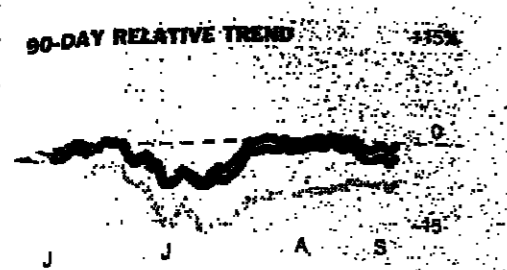
Table with columns: Broad market S. & P. 500 index, Blue chips Dow 30 industrials, Small capitalization Russell 2000 index. Shows gains of 0.57%, 0.78%, and 0.07% respectively.

Table with columns: Treasuries, Municipals, Corporates, Merrill Lynch Master index. Shows gains of 0.20%, 1.09%, 0.13%, and 0.95% respectively.

Table with columns: European stocks, Asian stocks, Gold, New York cash price. Shows declines of 1.10%, 3.50%, and 0.59% respectively.

Table with columns: Long bonds, Notes, Municipals, Bond Buyer index. Shows declines of 7.10%, 6.31%, 6.04%, and 2.26% respectively.

Table with columns: Money market funds, Bank C.D.'s, Stocks, S. & P. 500 dividend yield. Shows gains of 4.83%, 5.10%, and 2.26% respectively.



Sources: Bank Rate Monitor; Bloomberg Financial Markets; The Bond Buyer; Datastream; Goldman, Sachs; IBC's Money Fund Report; Merrill Lynch; Standard & Poor's; Ryan Labs

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New Environmental Threats

The 104th Congress has only a month to go before its members scatter for the fall re-election campaign. The post-Labor-Day period in the second year of a Congressional session is usually a dangerous time. Members eager to build a last-minute record tend to ignore the niceties of committee hearings and measured debate.

lions of acres of public land. These regulations also provided for broader public participation in rangeland management. A bill sponsored by Senator Pete Domenici, undoing these regulations, has already passed the Senate. A version of the Domenici bill is now before the House.

Mr. Arafat's Repressive Rule

When the Palestinians began limited self-rule two years ago, Yasir Arafat took on a job that might tax even an experienced national leader. His Palestinian Authority must provide services to an already impoverished region whose hardships are intensified by Israel's closing of Palestinian territories after terrorist bombings in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv.

as a license to violate civil liberties and the rule of law. Unhappily, American officials have often failed to make that clear. Vice President Gore and others have praised the State Security Courts.

The Wrong Way to Lure Business

The financially strapped government of New York City doles out hundreds of millions of dollars each year in tax breaks and loans to encourage businesses to remain or expand within the city.

because the Bronx is constantly slighted on economic development projects, having received 2.5 percent of the Industrial Development Agency funds spent from 1987 to 1995.

Yes, Cut Medical Costs, but First Do No Harm

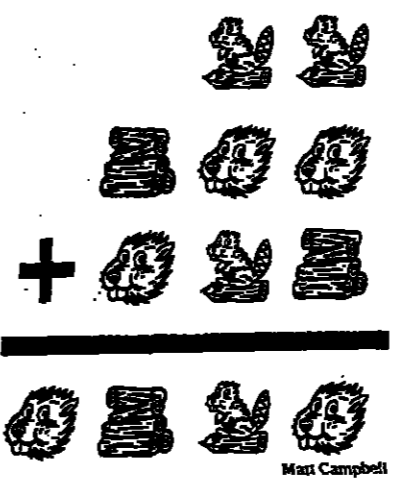
To the Editor: "The Squeeze on Medical Costs" (editorial, Sept. 4) perpetuates wishful thinking about the effect of cost containment — that "cuts in payments to doctors" translate into a reduction of "needless tests, operations and other procedures."

Nearly every cost-containment strategy reduces needed and need- less care equally. Worse, those who are poor or less educated are more likely to fail to receive care under most cost-containment strategies.

that cost containment will "first do no harm" to the most vulnerable among us. ERIC SCHNEIDER, M.D. Washington, Sept. 5, 1996

Muskrat Love, Meet Beaver Arithmetic

To the Editor: They count beavers in rural New York State, don't they (news article, Sept. 3)? Well, not exactly. The state leaves room for error by making aerial counts of beaver lodges and multiplying this number by an estimate of how many beavers each lodge ought to contain.



overmanaged may compensate for steady losses with high birth rates. There are effective ways to control beaver-created water levels that don't give a boost to reproductive vigor.

Caldrons Like the Kurds' Require High Priority

To the Editor: As Kenneth R. Timmerman suggests (Op-Ed, Sept. 4), the State Department risks a growing number of foreign policy failures by ignoring ethnic groups, like the Kurds, who have no political state.

ative diplomacy did the war caused by big-power failures come to an end. The State Department failed to respond to Russia's requests for help in dealing with problems in Chechnya in 1991 and 1992 and the result is a confrontation that has killed tens of thousands.

U.N. Leader Proposed Establishing an Army

To the Editor: A Sept. 1 news article challenges Senator Jesse Helms's essay in Foreign Affairs magazine, saying that he is incorrect in stating that United Nations Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has "pressed for the establishment of a standing U.N. army and the power to collect direct U.N. taxes."

He laid out proposed taxes on international financial transactions, global currency transactions, fossil fuel use and international air travel and travel documents, and declared: "It will be the role of the Secretary General to bring this project to fruition in the 21st century."

German Unity Day

To the Editor: Norbert Bräu (letter, Sept. 5) is wrong for second-guessing Chancellor Helmut Kohl's choice of Oct. 3 instead of Nov. 9 to celebrate German unification.

Psst! Got the Time?

To the Editor: Thomas L. Friedman is surprised to find clocks in Teheran set eight and a half hours ahead of New York's (column, Sept. 6). Much closer to home, Newfoundland has its own time zone, which is an hour and a half ahead of Eastern time.

To the Editor: You state (editorial, Sept. 4) that "medical schools will soon be devoting a majority of their slots to training general practitioners, rather than surgeons and other specialists."

While medical schools are changing their curriculums to put more emphasis on primary care, it is ultimately the Government that controls financing for the training of doctors after medical school.

Chinese Can Say No And Keep Ties to West

To the Editor: After reading your Sept. 4 Beijing Journal, several American colleagues and friends asked: "Why have the pro-democracy students of 1989 turned to radical anti-American nationalism?"

"Getting rich" is on everybody's mind, and most are not convinced yet that an anti-United States posture is the way to solve China's problems. A friend on the Beijing University faculty who returned from the United States with a Ph.D. in 1992 noted his disappointment in the book.

Teen-Agers at the Mall

To the Editor: I am incensed by the Mall of America's policy of restricting customers to those 16 or older on Friday and Saturday nights (front page, Sept. 4). As a 20-year-old college student, I am sensitive to age discrimination.

I'll Take Provence

To the Editor: Life in the south of France is so civilized that I'm mystified that Peter Mayle (Op-Ed, Aug. 30) is pleased to have exchanged it for Long Island's South Fork.

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Foreign Affairs

THOMAS L. FRIEDMAN

Waiting for Ayatollah Gorbachev

TEHRAN, Iran
What produces a Mikhail Gorbachev? That is the question. You see, if change is to come to Iran, it is not going to come by the Shah's son riding back on a white horse to oust Iran's Islamic leadership. And it isn't going to come by way of the ragtag Iranian opposition based in Iraq regaining power in Teheran. No, if Iran is to become the more pragmatic, fully law-abiding member of the world community that the West seeks, it will only be because an Iranian Gorbachev emerges from the Muslim leadership that now thoroughly dominates this nation and is able to forge a more moderate, but still Islamic, course from within.

Mikhail Gorbachev was produced by a combination of economic and social pressures that came together in the Soviet Union in the mid-1980's. Have U.S. economic sanctions on Iran shown any sign of producing a Gorbachev-like figure within Teheran's Islamic leadership? The consensus answer here is: "No — not yet."

Why? For one thing, Iran's merchants, through ingenuity and corruption, have found enough alternative markets and ways around the U.S. sanctions to stay in business. I just spent a morning walking through Teheran's sprawling bazaar, which was packed with shoppers. I asked one merchant after another how U.S. sanctions affected them. The vast majority didn't know there were U.S. sanctions on Iran.

Others said they were adapting — the wedding-dress maker was getting material from Japan, the rug dealer was selling to Germany, the jeans maker was getting fabric through Turkey. The export-importer said credit was very tight, but there was nothing he couldn't buy from America through Dubai or European intermediaries. But gold dealers said business was slow because Iran's 50 percent inflation had eaten away incomes, so many newlyweds couldn't afford gold. Iran's economy grew at 1.5 percent last year. Not great, but not a disaster. "U.S. sanctions have had little effect, because the only countries supporting them are America and Israel," said A.N.S. Khamooshi, head of Iran's

What will bring change to Iran?

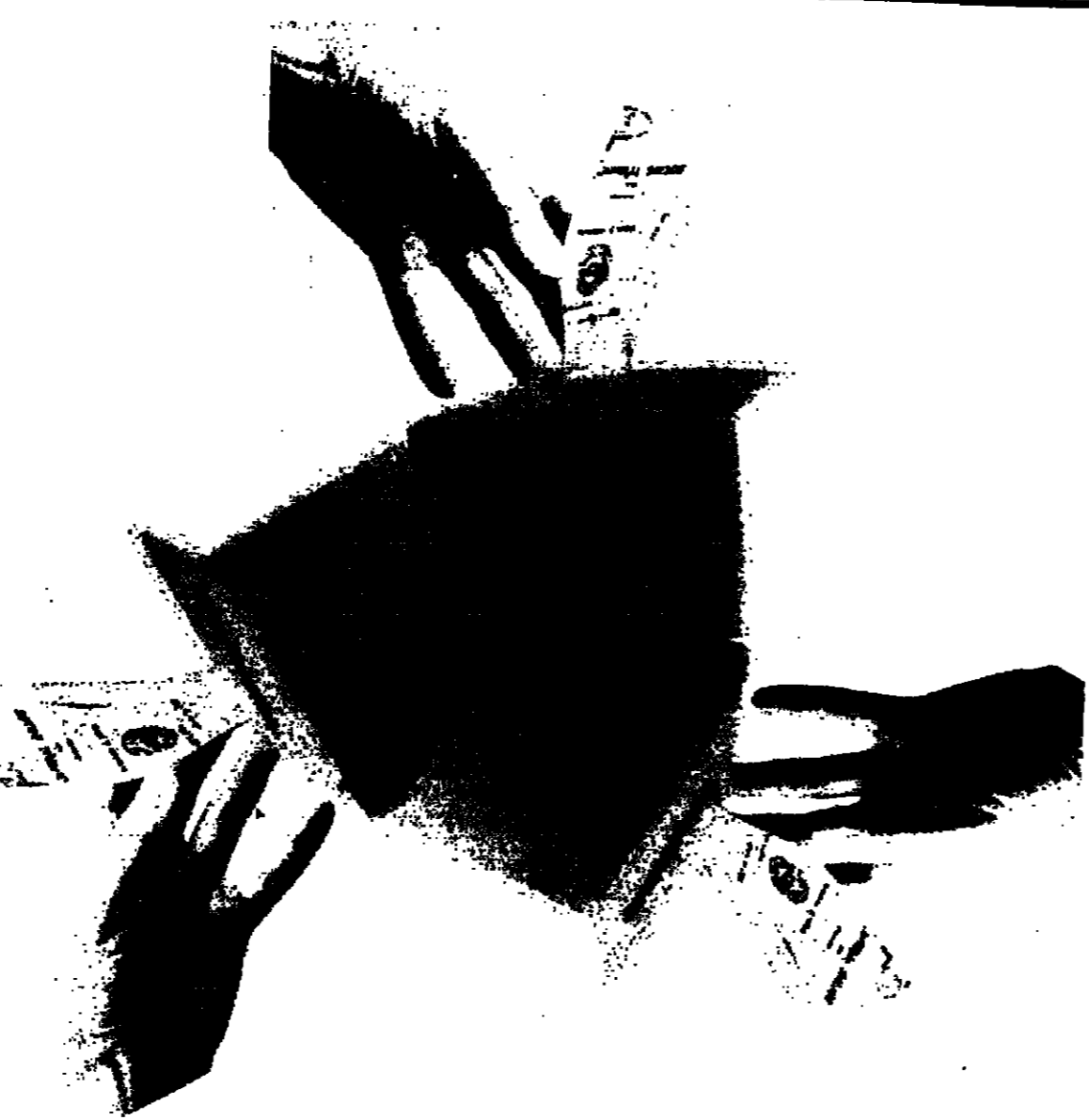
Chamber of Commerce. But the more important reason Iran's economic crunch hasn't become critical is O-I-L. Iran's Islamic Government still earns 80 percent of its foreign exchange from oil exports, which also account for almost 70 percent of Government revenues. Because Iran has no problem selling its 2.5 million barrels a day, the regime has a steady income, without having to radically restructure the economy and open up to the world the way the Soviet Union had to.

Sure, the camp of technocrat-pragmatists allied to President Hashemi Rafsanjani argue that Iran cannot live off its oil industry forever, especially since it now needs a huge amount of reinvestment to sustain its oil wells. But this group is opposed by a still-dominant majority, led by the nation's Spiritual Guide, Ali Khamenei, who argues that the Islamic Republic is growing fast enough and that growth of the economy is not the only priority, because with it comes a corrupting materialism, from the Disney Channel to McDonald's. Indeed, there is still a strong anti-growth movement among the mullahs. During recent parliamentary elections someone scrawled graffiti at a building site in plush north Teheran: "Enough Prosperity."

Still, with a soaring population of 65 million people, half of whom are under the age of 17, Iran will eventually have to overhaul its state-dominated economy, if it is to provide enough new jobs to absorb all its young people. That's when things will get interesting. Because to export oil requires no social change. To export computer chips or auto parts that are globally competitive requires a real restructuring of the Iranian economy, major foreign investment, an unleashing of the private sector and a real integration with the world.

So when will that crunch come? When Iran's steadily rising population runs into Iran's gradually declining oil revenues. That won't be next year, but it's coming. Only then will Iran have to face the reality that it can't export revolution and auto parts at the same time, because exporting evolution leads to isolation from the world and exporting auto parts demands the world. Only then will conditions be right for an Ayatollah Gorbachev to emerge — a cleric who will try to moderate Iran's Islamic system in order to preserve it.

And until then? An Iranian woman knows put it best: "Iran will never be a happy place as long as we have oil. It could be Japan if we didn't have



Decision Time in Bosnia

By Misha Glenn

T BRIGHTON, England
The king has deployed all his horses and all his men throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina. The 55,000-strong, NATO-led military force will be joined this week by 1,200 election supervisors and 850 observers for the national election on Saturday. There are already countless nongovernmental organizations and freelance do-gooders also bracing themselves for the latest stage in the Byzantine task of putting Humpty-Dumpty together again.

If successful, the countrywide elections should form what Richard C. Holbrooke, the architect of the Dayton agreement, has called the "connective tissue" that will glue again bind Bosnia together.

Mr. Holbrooke is not the only one to have expressed high hopes for these elections. All the major European and American diplomats and politicians involved have insisted that despite criticism of the electoral process, the main vote must go ahead.

That criticism has been vigorous. Editorial writers have joined forces with such influential commentators as the financier and philanthropist George Soros and former Prime Minister Haris Silajdzic of Bosnia. All say roughly the same thing: that holding the elections will guarantee that Humpty remains dismembered and that the results of ethnic cleansing will be sanctioned by what is a bogus democratic gesture.

So who is right? The answer is neither or, if you prefer it, both. Provided they do not collapse in

After the vote, how long should allied troops stay?

administrative chaos, the elections will have some positive impact. They will confer a degree of democratic legitimacy on representatives of all communities. At present, after four and a half years of bloody war, no Bosnian politicians can claim to enjoy a popular mandate. In addition, the elections will lead to the establishment of joint institutions in which all three communities are committed to participate. This is the good side.

The bad side is that the minimum conditions as set down by the Dayton agreement for the holding of free elections do not yet exist. The absence of freedom of movement both between and inside the two entities in Bosnia will discourage people from voting in places whence they were forcibly expelled. Not even the most passionate advocates of the elections consider them "free and fair." Or if they say they do, they are either lying or politically illiterate.

But in reality, the election is neither good nor bad but a large red herring, trussed up at considerable expense to look like the choicest Scottish smoked salmon.

As the thousands of electoral observers and journalists are descending on Bosnia and Herzegovina in droves, they are in danger of overlooking the most significant political event since the disintegration of Yugoslavia turned violent in June 1991.

This took place on Aug. 23, when Croatia and the rump Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) signed an agreement recognizing each other and establishing full diplomatic relations. This document lays to rest the central dispute that originally provoked violence in the former Yugoslavia. The wars in both Croatia and Bosnia were attempts by the Serbs and Croats to establish their new nation-states by force. The Bosnian Muslims were, to their great misfortune, squeezed in between the two dominant nations and, additionally, ill-served by their leaders.

The Aug. 23 treaty means that Croatia and Serbia are no longer locked in a territorial dispute. Moreover, in the Dayton agreement, the international community granted them a controlling interest over large areas of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Seen from this angle, Humpty's prospects for reconstruction are bleak. This has but one great advantage: The big war in Bosnia is over because neither the Serbs nor the Croats want it, and because the Bosnian Muslims cannot wage war to regain territory in the light of that Serbo-Croat consensus.

This does not necessarily mean that we have witnessed the last of armed conflict in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The map drawn up at Dayton, which splits the country into two entities, includes several boundaries that remain hotly contentious and that could easily turn nasty. If they did, they would provoke vicious minor wars aimed at ironing out creases in the Dayton map and pressing the seams of territorial partition.

The alternative is to promote a process that is generally anathema to Western politicians — a gradual stabilization of the country that would encourage first commercial cooperation between the communities and then economic integration. This is a decidedly unglamorous solution for a problem that has generated such passion as has Bosnia. Worse still, it requires a long-term military commitment from NATO.

This is not a Cyprus solution, as some critics would say. The topography of Bosnia insures that the three communities are much more dependent on one another's good will if they are to survive economically than are the Greeks and Turks of Cyprus.

Carl Bildt, the official responsible for carrying out the Dayton accord on the ground, told me in an interview last week that in order for integration to stand a chance, the West would need a force, with American ground troops, "at least until September 1998," which is when Bosnia's second postwar elections are due. The military presence would, of course, be much reduced from the 55,000 currently engaged in Bosnia, but it would be a serious commitment nonetheless. This assessment is substantially greater than anything President Clinton has been prepared to consider until now.

But that is the choice facing the Western world. If a complete pullout takes place within, say, a year, then the fate of Bosnia will be partition. The Bosnian Muslims will be in the weakest position, probably as an economic vassal of Croatia. Or the West can stay longer, diverting more financial and military resources to the region, offering a chance for some degree of integration. This is never likely to be complete, as the influence of both Serbia and Croatia will inevitably go beyond that normally associated with neighboring states.

But with support, Bosnia may develop a minimum number of institutions required to act as a coherent, internationally recognized state, enabling it to confront the more substantial question of reconciliation, which holds the final key to the country's long-term future.

If President Clinton and his European allies are committed to Bosnia, they are in for the long haul. Only then would the Bosnian vote make any sense at all. If, on the other hand, the West wants to pack its bags as soon as looks decent after the American Presidential elections in November, then the Bosnian election will be denounced by history as the most cynical manipulation of the democratic process by democratic countries. The tens of thousands of soldiers, civil servants and journalists, not to mention the billions in taxpayers' money, would be pawns in a chess game far more absurd than anything Lewis Carroll could ever have devised.

Liberties

MAUREEN DOWD

Literary Lion

WASHINGTON
One August night, I was having cocktails with a couple of Times reporters at the Jefferson Hotel. We were sulking about the tedium of the campaign. Little did we know, the biggest political story of the summer was unfolding right above our buttery Chardonnay.

There, in the seraglio marked 205, was an imbrogio. Dick Morris was pouring cognac for his mistresses and murmuring sweet nothings like, "Let me tell you about the Government shutdown," "I got my head torn off by Hillary when I tried to soften her image," and "Only you could keep me from the polls."

The headlines keep coming: "Advisor Had Secret Deal for Book" — The New York Times. "The Other Woman; Secret Love Child" — The New York Post. "Dick Morris May Testify on FBI Files" — The Washington Post.

Dick Morris has become to Bill Clinton what the picture of Dorian Gray was to Dorian Gray. All the transgressions we thought we would see in one, we see in the other.

By getting extravagantly rewarded for stripping authenticity from public life, and proving you can get further fixing an image than fixing on a principle, Dick Morris showed there is no floor to our shamelessness.

As one friend of mine put it: "You're driving home late at night after a few pops and you run over a nun. Whoopsie daisy, no problemo."

Doing something heinous used to get you into trouble. Now it gets you into a higher tax bracket. We're playing by Morris rules now. There is no honor, no reticence, no loyalty.

After he was pushed out, exposed as an adulterer who betrayed his wife and his boss with a prostitute, Mr. Morris was able to earn the breathless cover of Time magazine for the second straight week and renegotiate his book deal upward — to an astonishing \$2.5 million.

Among his other secrets was a five-month-old deal with Harry Evans at Random House. That means he was taking notes on the President's conversations and selling out his White House colleagues while he was still working with them.

Judith Regan, the New York publisher, said that Mr. Morris, looking for an even better deal, pitched his book to her last week as a flattering portrait of the Clinton Presidency. Isn't it a little late for that, now that the self-proclaimed genius and savior

has blabbed to a prostitute with a diary that he found Mr. Clinton to have no core or compassion? The air rings with piety. "This is not a book about a call girl but the governance of America and the White House and other important subjects," Mr. Evans said.

Sure it is. Just as Random House's new O. J. Simpson book by New Yorker writer Jeffrey Toobin is about the waywardness of the legal system and the role of police in a decaying inner-city environment.

Harry Evans paid top dollar for the inside scoop of a self-destructive narcissist who filled up an insecure, insincere President with poll-driven ideas. We can only hope he takes a bath on the book.

Govern thyself, Mr. Morris.

Eileen McGann, valiantly transforming her private sorrow into public service, will help her husband edit his book on "governance."

Mr. Morris and Ms. McGann found a felicitous match in Mr. Evans and his wife, Tina Brown, editor of The New Yorker. The couples sealed the book deal over lunch at the Evans-Brown East Side apartment. Ms. Brown bestowed literary legitimacy — or whatever literary legitimacy The New Yorker has left to bestow — on Mr. Morris by inviting him to be the honored guest, with Harvard professor Henry Louis Gates Jr., at a New Yorker breakfast for advertisers.

It breaks new ground in cultural synergy to have The New Yorker sell itself on the back of the Star. We may also soon be witnessing special hearings by the House of Representatives on the back of the Star.

Republicans, not above scouring the tabloids, declared that Mr. Morris should testify to explain the Sherry Rowlands diary entry quoting him as fingering Hillary Clinton as the one who asked for F.B.I. files of former Republican officials.

It isn't prurience that makes me linger over the Dick Morris scandals. I have a terrible sinking feeling that they tell us more about ourselves than the 15 percent tax cut or the 48-hour stay in the maternity ward ever will.

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Misha Glenn, author of "The Fall of Yugoslavia," is writing a history of Balkan nationalism.

F I L M

The Demons of Salem, Mass. Are With Us Still

By VICTOR NAVASKY

WHEN Arthur Miller's drama "The Crucible" first opened on Broadway in 1953, the country was in a panic about the so-called Red Menace. On Nov. 27, the first American movie of "The Crucible" will have its premiere. To understand why it took 43 years to make this film — not to mention its contemporary relevance — it pays briefly to recall the red hunt that no longer beleaguers us.

Senator Joseph McCarthy, with his reckless charges of spies and "comsymps," occupied the front pages, while behind the scenes J. Edgar Hoover, the director of the F.B.I., presided over and manipulated a vast internal security bureaucracy, issuing periodic bulletins intended to fan the flames of the domestic cold war.

In the center ring were the congressional inquisitor-investigators, asking "Are you now or have you ever been a member of the Communist Party?"

At the time, Mr. Miller and Tennessee Williams were regarded as the world's two foremost playwrights. But that lofty status was an invitation rather than an obstacle to the red-hunters who wanted to talk to Mr. Miller. In fact, when he was finally summoned to appear, the committee chairman, Representative Francis Walters, let Mr. Miller know that things might go easier for him if he persuaded his fiancée, Marilyn Monroe, to pose for a photograph with the chairman. Mr. Miller let that option lapse and was shortly indicted for contempt of Congress when he refused to answer the committee's questions about Communists he had known.

On the left, the hunt for subversives was routinely labeled a witch hunt, after the infamous Salem witch trials of the late 17th century. And so when "The Crucible," set in Salem in

not to be compared with the witch trials of that time," she said. "Those witches did not exist. Communists do. Here and everywhere in the world. It's a false parallel. Witch hunt! The phrase would indicate that there are no Communists in government, none in the arts, none sending money from Hollywood to 12th Street."

For me, the parallel worked. The term "Communist" had been so demonized that like the word "witch" it signified something that didn't really exist in its popular meaning. Certainly the entertainment community Communists like Mr. Kazan (and for a brief period, Mr. Miller himself, although he never fully joined the party) were not conscious agents of an international monolithic conspiracy to overthrow the Government by force and violence; they were, for the most part, do-gooders, who thought — misguidedly, most of them later concluded — that the Communist Party was the best agency to do something about the depression and racism at home and fascism abroad.

As it turned out, despite mixed notices for "The Crucible," over the years it was to become Arthur Miller's most performed play, with productions in China (where it was seen as a comment on the interrogation techniques of the Gang of Four in the aftermath of the Cultural Revolution), Poland, Britain, high schools and repertory theaters throughout the world. Now "The Crucible" is a \$25 million motion picture, under the aegis of 20th Century Fox.

Mr. Miller has done the screenplay for the movie, and it is directed by Nicholas Hytner, who directed the highly praised "Madness of King George" (both play and film) and just saw "The Crucible" on stage as a 12-year-old schoolboy. The poetic language found in the movie is word for word the language of the play. Dolls are "poppets," and even seemingly awkward grammatical syntax transports the audience back to a time and place when a man might choose to die for a principle.

Mr. Hytner worked with Mr. Miller on the screenplay and has confessed that at times he felt as if he were asking Shakespeare to tinker with "King Lear." But he says the transformation of the story for the screen "worked" because Mr. Miller "took it apart in a way that nobody else could have done — this incredibly tightly constructed four-act play."

"He was disrespectful," Mr. Hytner said. "But that's because he trusted me to keep the language."

As Mr. Hytner tells it, when he read Mr. Miller's first draft he was physically seized by it.

"As I turned the pages, I felt my heart pounding, my palms sweating," the director said. "Here was an entire society seized by uncontrolled madness. I actually felt in my gut what you are supposed to feel in the presence of classic tragedy, the stirrings of pity and terror."

Although the playwright in Mr. Miller was originally drawn to think about the political and moral pressures of the domestic cold war years, when I asked him about the applicability of the play to the here and now he said:

"I have had immense confidence in the applicability of the play to almost any time, the reason being it's dealing with a paranoid situation. But that situation doesn't depend on any particular political or sociological development. I wrote it blind to the world. The enemy is within, and within stays within, and we can't get out of within. It's always on the edge of our minds that behind what we see is a nefarious plot."

A case in point: The nationwide rash of child molestation trials in which children have charged daycare center workers with unspeakable crimes.

Indeed, Mr. Miller has already received mail pressing the analogy. I suspect it will be virtually impossible for anyone to see the close-ups of Devil-possessed children on the big screen (who ignite community panic with their accusations) and not reconsider the incredible inventory of uncorroborated allegations — including, at their outer edge, tales of satanic cults, U.F.O. abductions and human and animal sacrifices — in the child molestation trials.

When I asked Arthur Miller about the texture of sexuality that hovers over this latest "Crucible," he said: "I wasn't thinking in those terms, but that's an important element. The politically illicit always contains a germ of the sexually illicit."

Perhaps Debbie Nathan is onto something when she writes in her definitive study "Satan's Silence" (written with Michael Snedeker) that the recent obsession with daycare centers as primary venues for the sexual abuse of children is a "fabulous perverse displacement of the systematic societal abuse and neglect of millions of kids."

But "The Crucible" isn't an answer to the "believe the children" mantra that plagued the child molestation juries, any more than "Death of a Salesman" was, as Mr. Miller once put it, a plea for better conditions for traveling salesmen. On its most universal level "The Crucible" is about community hysteria, fear of the unknown, the psychology of betrayal, the cast of mind that insists on absolute truth and resorts to fear to dispel doubt.

Arthur Miller's 'Crucible' finally comes to screen. What can it tell us today?

1692 but written in the overheated atmosphere of the domestic cold war, appeared, two questions were quickly asked: Was Mr. Miller's depiction of the inhabitants and events of 1692 Salem faithful to the original? And was the original an appropriate metaphor for McCarthyism? It seems inevitable this time around that the two questions to be posed will be: Is the celluloid "Crucible" faithful to the play? And, since McCarthyism is long gone, what, if anything, does the movie have to say to an audience edging toward the millennium?

"I can't tell you the number of people who, when they heard we were making a major movie, asked, 'Well, what about the ending?'" Mr. Miller said one day over the summer.

Unlike "The Scarlet Letter" last year, with its tacked-on Hollywood ending, the cinematic "Crucible" (starring Winona Ryder as the young Abigail Williams, Daniel Day-Lewis as the farmer John Proctor and Joan Allen as his repressed wife, Elizabeth) is true to the story line of the stage play.

Indeed, said Mr. Miller, "One of the most persuasive moments of the film is when you see that rope tighten around Proctor's neck. That is a message — the fact that he went down to the end and did not relent."

On the historical front it was generally conceded when the play was written that Mr. Miller's research was accurate. His principal changes involved fusing some characters and raising the age of John Proctor's accuser, Abigail Williams, from 11 to 17 (to accommodate Mr. Miller's story of how a sexual liaison between Abigail and John was intertwined with the accusations of witchcraft against Proctor's wife).

But even before the play was written, Mr. Miller was denounced for his metaphor. He had stopped off at the home of his friend and colleague Elia Kazan, who had directed Mr. Miller's two previous prize-winning hits, "All My Sons" and "Death of a Salesman," and who had been subpoenaed to appear before the House Committee on Un-American Activities (where he ultimately named names).

They went for a walk in the Connecticut woods and discussed Mr. Kazan's dilemma. On the one hand to be an informer was unpalatable, but on the other, as Mr. Kazan put it at the time, "Secrecy serves the Communists."

In his memoir "Timebends," Mr. Miller wrote that he was half inside his car when Molly, Kazan's wife, "came out and asked if I was staying at my house, half an hour away, and I said that I was on my way to Salem. She instantly understood what my destination meant, and her eyes widened in sudden apprehension and possible anger. 'You're not going to equate witches with this!'"

Later, Mr. Kazan reported his wife's views in his own memoir, "A Life."



Winona Ryder is Abigail Williams in "The Crucible," which the playwright himself helped adapt for the screen — A parable of paranoia.

least about the fortitude it takes to protect the innocent and resist unjust authority.

The old nativist impulse that identified the foreign with the radical and the immoral is ever present in "The Crucible" and speaks to a theme in American history that includes not only Salem and McCarthyism but the Alien and Sedition Acts, the Palmer raids and countless other mobilizations grand and mini — in the face of the unfamiliar. Bill Bennett and Bob Dole see the Devil in rap music, Jesse Helms in the homoerotic photographs of Robert Mapplethorpe.

Californians, ever at the cutting edge, would exorcise illegal immigrants from their schools. There may not be any more domestic Communist menace, but "Arab" is in too many quarters a code word for "terrorist." And gays in the military, AIDS in the blood supply, blacks in the neighborhood and political correctness (left-McCarthyism is what it is) — all have provided occasions for exploitation, public hysteria and private panic.

As Mr. Miller has written, "No man lives who has not got a panic button, and when it is pressed by the clean white hand of moral duty, a certain murderous train is set in motion."

In an introduction to the final screenplay, which will be published by Viking Press when the movie is released, Mr. Hytner remarks that in Puritan Salem, "the constant press to dedicate every aspect of life to the glory of God is what lets the Devil in."

As I watched Paul Scofield as the Puritan prosecutor Danforth on the screen, I was back there with him in the 1690's: "You must understand, sir, a person is either with this Court or against it; there be no road between. This is a new time, a precise time; we live no longer in the dusky afternoon when evil mixed itself with good and befuddled the world. Now, by God's grace, the good folk and the evil entirely separate! I hope you will find your place with us."

But as Danforth systematically went about the business of rooting out the Devil, my own first thoughts were of the Christian Right, whose fundamentalist message seems increasingly to engulf our political culture. The last time I looked, the polls showed that a majority of Americans say they "believe" in the Devil's existence (and 10 percent say they have communicated with him).

In his best seller, "The New World Order," Pat Robertson invokes the Book of Revelation as authority for the proposition that the "anti-Christ" is on his way. Citing George Bush's talk of a new world order in the aftermath of the Gulf war, he writes that "Satan knows" that "a world government" is just around the corner. The government is the enemy and the Christian movement is the victim.

Asked whether he agreed that today's Christian fundamentalists might be a case study in the sort of political hysteria depicted in "The Crucible," Mr. Miller said, "Fundamentalism is happening internationally" and talked of a television clip he had seen the previous evening. "In Israel, they're rushing through the streets trying to stop traffic on the Sabbath. The absolutist passion is an undying feeling. The fanaticism of people attacking automobiles! The isolation that the Jews were forced into feeds that. In another age it was the Catholics. It ain't going to

go away!"

As Elaine Pagels, the scholarly author of "The Origin of Satan," has written: "Throughout the centuries, Christians have turned the [New Testament Gospels'] polemical vocabulary against a wider range of enemies. In the 16th century, for example, Martin Luther, founder of Protestant Christianity, denounced as agents of Satan all Christians who remained loyal to the Roman Catholic Church, all Jews who refused to acknowledge Jesus as Messiah, all who challenged the power of the landowning aristocrats by participating in the Peasants' War and all 'protestant' Christians who were not

Lutheran."

And so the final irony may well be that the movie it was thought impossible to make during the McCarthy years because it was about McCarthyism (itself a misnomer since it began long before the hapless Senator arrived on the scene) turns out not to have been about that particular social deformation at all. Rather, it was about something more universal — fear of forces one can't understand and control.

"When something is unseen or secret or unfamiliar, you're free to project anything on it," observed Mr. Miller.

My spies tell me that 20th Century

Fox intends to market "The Crucible" as a "Fatal Attraction" story. After all, it is explained, what brings the community down is a simple case of adultery. When I first heard that, I thought, how sad, how Hollywood! Surely Mr. Miller and Mr. Hytner and their magnificent cast have given us a drama that is about more than the "lecher" and the "whore," as Salem's vocabulary would have it.

But as I think about the sex, supernatural religion, politics and paranoia that boil and bubble in the Miller and Hytner brew, it occurs to me that "The Crucible" was probably destined for Hollywood all along.

PLAIN GEOMETRY

BY ROBERT H. WOLFE / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down words.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE. A grid of words from the previous puzzle, including: TRAFFIC, SHIER, GASHED, MAXILLA, CHANGE, OATMEAL, ALAN, RISH, HOWITZ, RENAISSANCE, NON, EITTE, STOOGE, A, RED, ALLCAPONE, NOVELS, GODLIER, ERG, ELI, HISM, APOE, ASA, RESEDA, OUT, FAL, GOLDFORBES, MAN, PTA, ELL, SARD, RAT, SLITREB, BANANA, TOSEA, MAIL, SPLIT, ELAWESEY, DELAY, HATS, ELAND, BRASIT, WIRETAP, ISE, LAOS, ONE, ANT, ARA, KERM, ITTHER, FROG, ATO, KISHET, ADS, SESE, CONFESSA, SSO, SCANIER, ANTON, WCFIELDS, BEAR, ONSIDE, LALA, IFA, EXPECT, ABRAHAM, LIT, COLN, VISUAL, RANTAN, ERUPTED, STEPPE, DROSS, REDATES.

Unexpected locker find: Frozen whalemeat

EARTHLY CONCERNS
D'VORA BEN SHAUL

It isn't often that forensic scientists are called to examine a locker filled with 16 tons of whale meat, but two years ago in Russia this is just what happened. The police wanted to know if they could tell them how old the whale meat was and how long it had been in storage.

It all started when it came to the attention of the Russian authorities that a local pair of entrepreneurs had offered the Japanese 16 tons of whale meat and that the Japanese, always wanting more of this delicacy, were buying. But, since whaling is banned in Russia (except for a very few whales caught legally as food for a small extremely northern group of people for whom it is and has always been a staple diet), the authorities are interested in knowing where this whale meat came from.

Unfortunately, while the anti-whaling laws went into effect through the offices of the International Whaling Commission (IWC) some 18 years ago, the former USSR was not particularly attentive to the demands of the law, and a lot of illegal whaling was taking place under government auspices.

In some cases the matter was so well orchestrated that special vents were built into the deck and hull of whaling vessels so that the ship could produce, on demand, a cloud of vapor that surrounded the vessel and prevented satellites or overflying aircraft from seeing or photographing the activities on deck or around the ship. These pirate ships plied the icy waters of the north, and accounted for the illegal catching of thousands of whales over 10 years or so.

This was much to the distress of the IWC and to scientists studying marine life once they learnt about it, because it totally invalidated all the studies they had conducted over the years on whale dispersal patterns and whale populations.

But, since the disintegration of the USSR, it must be noted that the Russians - the only real whaling population in the former USSR - have gone a long way towards cleaning up their act and in barring to officials the true records of whaling activities in the past.

So where, they ask, did these men get 16 tons of whale meat? The entrepreneurs claim that the whale meat had been in cold storage, where it is today, since before the 18-year-old whaling ban went into effect, but officials at the cold-storage plant they use say they have no knowledge or records of any whale meat being kept there for such a long period.

The authorities asked forensic scientists to determine the age of the whale meat in the locker. This was no mean task, as there was no precedent for this kind of analysis. But after two years of study on all sorts of frozen meats, the scientists at the Moskva Technical Institute issued a statement that in their opinion the meat was not more than 10 years old. This would mean that it was caught long after the ban went into effect.

Whether this will hold up in court or not remains to be seen, but in the meantime the police in Russia have charged the two men with trafficking in banned food products.

UK ex-pats key to electoral success

The British election campaign came here as both major political parties sent leading representatives.
Tom Gross spoke separately with Jeffrey Archer and Robin Cook

UNLIKE Israel, many democracies allow their citizens living abroad to vote in domestic elections. This includes Britain, where a general election must be held some time before next May, and following signs of steady economic recovery, a close race is now expected.

British Jews could play an important role in determining their outcome, since they have strong links with politically pivotal regions such as London and England's north-west, both of which contain many marginal constituencies.

Before the last election five years ago, David Sumberg, Conservative MP for Bury South (near Manchester), personally flew out to canvass in Netanya, where many of his former constituents live. He believes the support he captured here helped secure his slim victory in England, where he won by only 788 votes.

In an attempt to win the votes of British citizens abroad, senior strategists from the two main British political parties, the ruling Conservatives (or Tories) and the opposition Labor Party, this month dispatched senior representatives to woo some of the estimated 35,000 Britons eligible to vote living in Israel. The Conservatives sent their party chairman, Lord (Jeffrey) Archer (who in addition to his political role is also well-known internationally as a best-selling novelist) and Labor sent the shadow Foreign Secretary, Robin Cook.

JEFFREY ARCHER
Despite signs of a strong economic recovery, the Conservatives are still trailing Labor by over 20 percentage points in the opinion polls. Can you win the elections?

Yes, I've no doubt at all that we can. The problem we face is that after 18 years in power people are bored with us and we will have to convince them that it's far too great a risk to elect a Labor government.

The "new look" Labor Party has claimed the center ground of British politics since Tony Blair became its leader two years ago, and promptly ditched its old-style socialist policies. What are now the main differences between the two parties?

Although there's not now a great deal of difference between the left wing of our party and Tony Blair, there are great differences with old-style socialists like

[deputy leader] John Prescott and Robin Cook.

Many British Jews regard the Conservatives as the party with the closest ties to the British establishment, and in particular with the Foreign Office, which is not known historically for its pro-Israel sympathies. What do you hope to say to Jewish voters here to dispel that image?

I can only speak for myself. As a young MP [in the 1970s] I worked very hard to get Jews out of Russia and I've remained a friend of the Jewish people throughout my political life.

Disraeli pointed out that many Jews were in fact natural conservatives, but the antisemitism that held them back from proper social acceptance turned them into people of the left. To what extent do you think this is correct? If so, has the tide now turned, allowing British Jews to find a home on the right?

Jews are born to be conservatives. They are entrepreneurs, inventive and hard-working. Under Margaret Thatcher and John Major there's been a higher Jewish representation in the British cabinet than ever before.

The Jewish Conservative MP for South Hants., Anthony Steen, said recently that anti-Jewish prejudice could prevent two of the most senior figures in the government, Home Secretary Michael Howard and Foreign Secretary Malcolm Rifkind, both of whom are Jewish, from winning a future Conservative leadership contest. Do you think there is some truth in this?

I can only speak for myself. I think these are two of the most outstanding men in government today, and if I had a vote they'd both be very high on my list. I don't sense it among my colleagues. If Anthony Steen does I'm very, very sorry.

Do you think there are any problems for Rifkind in his being Jewish? Some people say it makes him more sympathetic to Israel, but many others say he has bent over backwards not to be. For example, in a speech in London in May, he said that "Israel is considered to be in military occupation of East Jerusalem and only to have de-facto authority over West Jerusalem."

Although of course only he can answer your question, what I can say is that I've known Malcolm for 30 years and besides being among the most decent, educated and intelligent human beings I've ever



Jeffrey Archer (left): Jews are born to be conservatives. They are entrepreneurs, inventive and hard-working. Robin Cook: There's no antisemitism in Labor ranks, absolutely none. We are a party that opposes racism in any form. (Karen Benzin and Isaac Harari)

dealt with, he is also a dispassionate man who comes down on the side of what is fair.

How important is Israel to Britain and which party in Britain is more sympathetic to Israel?

Of course, I would like to say the Conservatives, although to be fair, both sides of the House [of Commons] care about Israel and it wouldn't be clever of me to try and score points.

Why don't you move your embassy to Jerusalem?

This is a matter of time and will be effected by what happens in the next few months, not just by Britain, but in coordination with several other countries.

ROBIN COOK
Are you worried by the recent slight dip in support for Labor in the opinion polls?

We have been 20-30 points ahead for the last three years and are still comfortably ahead. This is the biggest and longest unbroken lead in the history of polling. We're confident we're going to win but we're not being complacent.

The "new look" Labor Party has moderated itself enormously since Tony Blair became leader two years ago. What are now the main differences between the two parties? Are Labor's policies just Thatcherism with a slightly more human face?

No, certainly not. The Labor Party offers policies that are tailored to provide opportunity and justice for the great mass of the British people, whereas the Conservatives have consistently defended the nest of those who are privileged. We want society to be organized on a

basis where everybody has a stake in it, not just a few people.

Several senior Labor Party members have termed Tony Blair's leadership style as "dictatorial." Most recently, one Labor MP likened Blair to North Korean dictator Kim Il Sung. Is Mr. Blair behaving in a dictatorial manner?

No, absolutely not. What is significant about the Labor Party at the present time is the extent to which it is united. Of course a few individuals may say things that are not from the party songbook, but no Labor Party leader has done more to meet with and involve party members than Tony Blair.

Whereas in the past Jews have often played a prominent role in the Labor Party, very few of the people around Blair seem to be Jewish. On the other hand, many leading Conservatives of the last few years have been. Do British Jews now feel more comfortable in the Conservative Party?

That's quite wrong. Tony has very good relations with the Jewish community, and a number of senior Jewish businessmen regularly meet with him. He has had a long association with the Labor Friends of Israel, which he addressed at party conference last year, and has quite strongly drawn links between his own philosophy of a community, and the traditional Jewish approach.

The Jewish Conservative MP Anthony Steen recently claimed there was anti-Jewish prejudice within his party. To what extent do you think antisemitic prejudice also exists within the Labor Party?

There's no antisemitism in Labor ranks, absolutely none. We are a party

that opposes racism in any form.

Which party in Britain is more sympathetic to Israel? If you were foreign secretary, would there be any differences in policy toward Israel?

We don't wish to get into a Dutch auction, we are anxious that both British parties speak with a united voice and we have given broad support for the speech by Malcolm Rifkind on the Palestine question which he made last May and for the commitment for the land-for-peace principle.

Have you met Netanyahu? Do you like him?

Of course we support our sister party here and were disappointed they did not continue in government. But plainly it is a matter for the Israeli people to decide who they wish to govern them and we will work with either party. I had a very good and productive meeting and full discussion with Mr. Netanyahu when we met during my visit here.

Netanyahu has said he wants to move Israel to a much more market-oriented economy. Do you think in general this is a good thing?

Yes, there can be economic stimulus and opportunity from reforms to the economy, but it's very important that as the government proceeds with market liberalization, it makes sure that those who are vulnerable in society are protected and that the opportunities are fairly spread.

Note: British citizens who have lived abroad for less than 20 years maintain their right to vote, as do their children who were under 18 when their parents left. To do so they must register at the British Embassy before October 10.

A prisoner's freedom of expression

In the Supreme Court, sitting as a Court of Appeal under section 62A of the Prisons Ordinance (New Version) of 1971, before Justices Elyahu Mazza, Michael Cheshin, and Dalia Dornier, in the matter of Avi Hananya Golan, appellant, versus The Prison Service, respondent (P.A.-4463/94).

GOLAN IS serving a cumulative sentence of 10 and a half years imprisonment in the Ashmoret prison as a prisoner "requiring special protection." In 1989, while imprisoned in Ashkelon, he wrote a series of articles in a local paper describing his life in prison for which he was paid. In 1994 he requested permission to write in a Netanyahu paper on his prison experiences, but was refused. He petitioned the Tel-Aviv District Court, under section 62A(a) of the above Ordinance, to overrule the decision. The petition was denied on the ground that refusing him free access to the press, which would seriously affect prison administration, was not unreasonable, and he appealed to the Supreme Court.

JUSTICE MAZZA, in giving the first judgment, said Golan had relied on his basic freedoms of expression and occupation. He averred that being a prisoner requiring "special protection" prevented him from participation with other prisoners, in rehabilitation programs, that writing and publishing his impressions would release him from his isolation and loneliness, and that his fees for his writings would improve his prison conditions.

The service did not deny prisoners' basic rights of expression and occupation. However, contacts with the press were, in principle, only permitted on an organized and supervised basis, while individual contacts were allowed only in exceptional circumstances. Moreover, his requirement of special protection precluded his employment by any outside person, which could expose him to some danger. Granting his request, the service submitted, would give him exceptional power which could affect his relationship with wardens and other prison officials, and disturb normal prison procedures.

The service also alleged that Golan had twice abused his privilege in the past, once in an interview with journalists after his escape from prison in 1987, and

once in a telephone conversation while in prison. On the other hand, said Justice Mazza, he had promised not to mention in his articles anyone except himself, and to submit them all to prior censorship. To this the service replied that such censorship was not only outside its duties, but also completely impracticable.

He then analyzed in depth several precedents and legal texts relating to freedom of speech and expression in general, and that of prisoners in particular. The primacy of this basic freedom had been emphasized in Chief Justice Agranat's classic judgment in the case of *Kol Ha'am* (H.C.73/53-Selected Supreme Court Judgments [English], vol. 1, p. 90).

It could only be denied if it involved "a near certainty of serious damage to the public interest." Subject to prisoners' limitation of movement, they were entitled to it no less than everyone else. He then reiterated that no basic freedom was absolute.

There were competing interests, and the court had to strike a balance between them, in this case between Golan's right to publish his articles, and the necessities of prison administration.

In his opinion, he said, the refusal to grant Golan's request was unjustified. Golan had accepted the service's right to censor any article likely to damage the public interest, or the organization of the prison or its discipline, or the reputation of any officer, warden, or prisoner. The service had relied mainly on the power Golan would receive as a "journalist." It had submitted that it had neither the right nor the facilities to censor his material. However, regulation 33 of the Prison Regulations of 1978 under the above Law gave it censorship powers, and he could not accept that it did not have the facilities to do so.

The service had also contended, he said, that Golan, being a prisoner requiring special protection, precluded him from being employed by a person outside the prison. Citing section 4 of the Basic Law: Freedom of Occupation, of 1994, he said that argument too was unacceptable, since Golan asked permission to write inside the prison, and the Law afforded him that right. Justice Mazza proposed, therefore, that the appeal be allowed.

JUSTICE CHESHIN dissented

LAW REPORT ASHER FELIX LANDAU

from his colleague. Justice Mazza, he said, had written a kind of prisoners' "magna carta," and he accepted the principles there laid down.

However, while the basic freedoms were to be recognized, a balance was to be struck between the extremely arduous task of conducting a prison with all the restrictions involved, and the basic individual rights of prisoners.

He then pointed to features relating to Golan's weekly articles, which favored the service's decision; they would affect the relationship between him and the wardens and prison staff and the relationship between the wardens themselves; he would acquire more information than other prisoners about prison conditions; and he would acquire a special status among prisoners with all the dangers involved.

Citing several sections of the

Prison Ordinance and regulations, he found that a proper balance between the conflicting considerations justified the service. A prison community was composed of criminals, who were not necessarily entitled to the same rights as others.

Golan had relied on the service's censorship powers, but he justified the reply that that power was intended for the normal kind of material leaving a prison, and was not directed to weekly articles and the time and effort their censorship would involve.

Golan had also undertaken to write only about his personal life, and not mention individuals. His record, however, precluded any reliance on his promises. He also was wary, added Justice Cheshin, of relying on precedents relating to prisoners in other countries. The court was concerned with an Israeli prison and a particular prisoner. He proposed, therefore, that the appeal be dismissed.

JUSTICE DORNER agreed with Justice Mazza. Citing several

authorities and The Basic Law: The Freedom and Dignity of Man, of 1992, she stressed two conditions for denying the basic freedom of expression in the present context: a near certainty of real and serious damage to prison order and discipline, and that such a result could not be averted by reasonable means.

She also emphasized that it was for the service to justify its refusal to allow the articles. In her opinion, the service had failed to establish either of the above conditions, and its decision, therefore, could not stand.

IN THE result, and by majority decision, the appeal was allowed, the District Court's judgment was set aside, and the service was ordered to grant Golan the permission sought.

Dan Yakir appeared for Golan, and Yehuda Shefer, Senior Assistant State Attorney, appeared for the service.

The judgment was given on August 25, 1996.

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הלכה מן האל

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Monday, September 9, 1996

Wexler resigns as ILA chief

DAVID HARRIS
 SRAEL Lands Administration director general Uzi Wexler handed his resignation in person to National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon yesterday.
 While Wexler's departure had been predicted since Labor's election defeat in May, Sharon said Wexler left the ministry on good terms, and will be missed.
 Sharon has also asked Wexler to continue his link with the administration in an advisory capacity.
 It's been suggested in the media that Wexler is leaving his post because of disagreements with Sharon, including differences over the level of compensation being offered to farmers who are losing land to the construction of the Trans-Israel Highway.
 "I think it's only natural there are differences," responded Sharon.
 So far no replacement has been found, according to the ministry. It is being reported that Attorney General Michael Ben-Yair has told Sharon that his preferred candidate, lawyer Avi Drexler, cannot be considered because of his involvement in the Aryeh Deri affair.
 "There is no definite replacement for Wexler," said Sharon. "This is for a very simple reason - I personally haven't made up my mind. I'm sure in Israel there are plenty of good candidates for the post; we'll pick the most appropriate one."

Tender issued for toll section of Trans-Israel Highway

DAVID HARRIS
 THE NIS700 million tender to construct the central section of the Trans-Israel Highway was issued yesterday.
 Four consortia have been invited to compete for the tender to build the 90-kilometer stretch from just west of Shohesh in the south to Rosh Ha'ayin in the north.
 Eventually, the minimum four-lane highway will run from just south of Kiryat Gat to Yokne'am, with possible additions to Rosh Hanikra and beyond Beersheba.
 Those looking to win the tender are Israel Transport Ventures, which is led by Transroute International (France) and Yona Group; Derech Eretz Consortium, comprising, among others, Africa Israel Investments Ltd. and Canadian Highways Investment Corp.; Israel Kingsway Group, including Dragados (Spain), and Tarmac Construction Ltd. (United Kingdom); and a fourth consor-

tium led by Bouygues (France), with backing from Israeli, German and Italian companies.
 The central section of the north-south route has been designated by the government as a self-financing toll-route, with the successful company operating the electronic system for the first 30 years and ownership then reverting back to the government.
 "Our aim is that the successful tender will make profits," said Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu during the tender launch in his office.
 Netanyahu explained the main aim of the road is to attract major portions of the population and industry into Israel's hinterland. "In the past, industry and people have had to be subsidized and cajoled into Israel's peripheries, in essence this has not succeeded,"

he said. "We're sick of the term 'development town,' we want to be able to call them developed towns."
 The north-south Trans-Israel route will be complemented by east-west roads, said National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon.
 As a result of the government's roads program, the ministers said, people and businesses will have the opportunity to avoid the "huge land and real estate prices" in the center of the country.
 "The road is not just a piece of transport infrastructure, but a key to developing all of Israel," said Cross-Israel Highway Ltd. chairman Moshe Levy.
 The tender for the latest section shows the importance of links between the public and private sectors, said Levy, with the gov-

ernment favoring a privately funded toll scheme.
 The first contracts to build the Ben Shemen and Kessem interchanges were awarded in the public sector.
 Work at Ben Shemen, costing NIS70m., is expected to be completed next February.
 This interchange will link the Tel Aviv-Jerusalem, Maccabim-Modi'in, and Ben Shemen-Rosh Ha'ayin roads with Trans-Israel Route 6.
 Construction of the NIS150m. Kessem interchange should begin next month and last for two-and-a-half-years.
 This will connect the new road with the concurrently developing Trans-Samaria Highway 5.
 The majority of the 90-kilometer route has already received full planning permission, despite continuing objections from environmental groups.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Defense contractors prepare for military exhibition in Poland: Six Israeli defense contractors are scheduled to participate in a military exhibition in Poland meant to highlight Israel's capability in the military industrial field. The six companies to attend the September 23 fair in Gdynia are Elbit, Elisra, Rafael, Tadiran and Israel Aircraft Industries. The companies are being organized by the Defense Ministry's Sibat arms exports division.
 Officials said this is the third time that Sibat has organized Israeli participation in a military exhibition in Poland. They said the Israeli presence is meant to promote Israeli military products and upgrade capabilities, especially in the field of aviation and armor.
 Israeli defense contractors launched a major initiative in the early 1990s to win contracts in Poland. But defense sources said Poland's lack of capital have frustrated the Israeli effort.
Steve Rodan

Peilim program calculates yield of maturity for bonds: Peilim, a member of the Bank Hapoalim group, has developed a new program to calculate the yield of maturity for bonds.
 The program enables users to quickly find out the influence of changes in yields, calculate the worth of Maof options, and compare shekel investment alternatives.
Galit Lipkis Beck

Radisson delegation concludes visit here: A delegation of 21 directors of worldwide accounts from Radisson Worldwide and Radisson SAS wrapped up a visit to Israel yesterday. The purpose of the visit was to enable the directors to launch marketing campaigns for Israel and the Radisson Moriah hotels.
 The visit was initiated by Rafi Beeri, Radisson Moriah's vice president, marketing, in cooperation with the Tourism Ministry and El Al. During their stay, the visitors went to Eilat, where they also met with Christian Gartman, general manager of Radisson SAS Jordan.
Haim Shapiro

United Mizrahi Bank deputy general manager to retire: David Olmar, deputy general manager of United Mizrahi Bank, yesterday announced his decision to retire from the bank after 38 years. United Mizrahi Bank management said they intend to consult Olmar after he retires.
Galit Lipkis Beck

Union Bank sale won't occur without workers' okay

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

MI HOLDINGS, the state firm in charge of selling the state's bank holdings, has agreed not to conclude a deal to sell its remaining holdings in Union Bank without receiving the workers' agreement.
 The government is very close to finalizing a transaction to sell 23.2 percent of Union Bank's shares to the Shlomo Eliyahu group, which currently controls the bank.
 Heads of Union Bank's workers committee and Zion Shema, head of the Histadrut's bank and insurance firms workers division, yesterday met with MI Holdings general manager Meir Yacobson to discuss the threatened work dispute.
 The workers intend to strike unless the government agrees to allocate them 10 percent of its shares in Union at a 25% discount or offer some kind of other alternative. The workers are also demanding they receive unlinked loans to finance the share purchase.
 According to Shema, the workers are demanding the same conditions as those previously offered to Bank Leumi and Bank Hapoalim.
 But, in contrast to Leumi and Hapoalim, Union Bank's shares will not be offered to the general public through a share offering.
 MI Holdings has agreed to discuss it with the workers immediately after Rosh Hashana. In the meantime, the workers have received MI Holdings' word that it will not conclude a transaction with the Eliyahu group without the workers' consent.



A child adjusts her uncle's cigarette yesterday at a Beijing shopping center. While the city has banned smoking in most public places, smokers can light up when outside. The tobacco industry is a major source of revenue for the government, which taxes 300 million smokers. (Reuters)

Ya'acobi: IEC must cope with competition

Jerusalem Post Staff

THE Israel Electric Corporation will have to learn to cope with new conditions, including competition from private and independent producers, according to company chairman Gad Ya'acobi.
 Ya'acobi was speaking as IEC executives were discussing the company's development program for the next 20 years, particularly in the areas of electricity generation and transmission.
 Ya'acobi also drew attention to the increasing use of gas in production, especially with the anticipated construction of the Egyptian gas pipeline.
 Among the projects being considered are a second national power transmitter, either along the length of the Ayalon Highway, or further east. A full program of power and switching stations is also being considered.

Hilton signs deal to manage Eilat's Queen of Sheba

HAIM SHAPIRO

THE country's first theme hotel, the Eilat Queen of Sheba Hilton, is due to open at the end of 1998, according to real estate developer Yitzhak Tshuva, who is building the 450-room hotel.
 Tshuva signed a contract yesterday with Hilton International, which is to manage the property. In addition to being built on a Queen of Sheba theme, similar in style to Sun City in South Africa, the hotel is to have half its rooms built as apartment units, which are to be sold to private buyers.
 "The hotel is on the only privately owned beachfront property in Eilat," Tshuva said. "Each buyer will be registered in Tabu."
 Participating in the \$100 million investment with Tshuva's Elad Hotels is Or-Yam, owned by Ted Arison's Arison Investments and Secom Israel, which is part of the Shikun Ovdim group.
 Hilton International chairman Peter George, who came to Tel Aviv for the signing ceremony, noted it is unusual, but not unknown for a Hilton hotel to have some rooms owned by individuals as separate units.
 Among hotels which have this system are some in Saudi Arabia and the Jakarta Hilton. According to the system, the owners must agree to have their units managed by Hilton, which may rent them out, with a set proportion of the funds going to the owners.
 According to Tshuva, the buyers will have to be approved before they can make their investment.
 The hotel, Tshuva said, would be more luxurious than anything existing until now in Israel. It is to have a large public commercial recreation and restaurant complex on the ground floor, he said.

Most provident funds suffer negative real yields

Banks expect improvement in returns next month

GALIT LIPKIS BECK
 MOST of the banks' provident funds achieved negative real returns of between 0.1 percent and 0.2% last month, while in the first eight months of the year most of the funds reported negative real returns, according to figures published by the banks yesterday.
 The banks, which expressed hopes that improved yields would reduce the redemption trend which dominated the markets since January 1995, said they expect the returns to continue improving next month thanks to the turnaround noted in the capital market in the first week of September.
 Bank Hapoalim said a continuation of this trend "will contribute to real positive yields and a change in the atmosphere of the provident funds."
 Among the three largest funds, Bank Discount's Tamar was the best performing fund, achieving a real negative yield of 0.11% in May.
 During the first eight months of the year, the fund achieved an

attempt to raise funds abroad. The decisions by Moody's and Standard and Poors were welcomed as "a vote of confidence" by the Finance Ministry, which hopes to sell up to \$250 million worth of bonds by the year's end, the first part of a three-year bid to raise \$750m.
 Meanwhile, the International Monetary Fund delegation currently here will present its initial report on Wednesday.
 While the ratings approval is likely to be looked on favorably, the report could well focus on the economic slowdown, which some economists and politicians are calling the early signs of a recession.
 Mizrahi's Avid fund achieved a positive real yield of 0.05% last month and an accumulated negative return of 3.07%.
 First International's Meitav fund, which manages assets of NIS910m., achieved a positive real return of 0.36% last month.
 In the first eight months of the year, the fund has achieved an accumulated negative return of 2.38%.
 First International Bank's Maten fund, which manages assets of NIS38m., is the only fund in the sector to report a positive real yield since the start of the year.
 In the first eight months the fund achieved a positive real return of 0.3%, while in August the fund achieved a positive real return of 0.43%.

Ports and Railways Authority
Notice of Proposed Purchase

- The Ports and Railways Authority - Israel (P.R.A.) wishes to obtain quotations, in accordance with the International Agreement on Government Procurement Procedure GATT, for the supply of the following equipment:

No.	Tender	Description	Qty.	Opt. Cost	Submission date
1.1	9800/004	Track Motor Car with Crane	7-11	1170	Nov. 10, 1996
1.2	9800/003	Railway Maintenance Crane	1	585	Nov. 10, 1996

* Including 17% VAT

- Requested delivery date - in 1997
- Preliminary conditions
- Bidders must be approved for ISO 9000 or AAR-M-1003 (or equivalent) standard, or be listed for the same.
- Bidders must prove the use of proposed equipment by European or American Railway Administration.
- Bidders must prove past experience in manufacture and supply of the above mentioned equipment as specified in the tender document.
- Item 1.2 must have at least two options to neutralize the propulsion system to enable the integration of the equipment in a train.
- The P.R.A. reserves the right to proceed with or discontinue negotiations with any or all of the selected bidders. Further, the P.R.A. is not obligated to purchase the lowest priced equipment which might be offered by any potential bidder.
- Tender documents including technical specifications are available upon payment as stated in para.1 above. All documents and proposals should be submitted in English.
- The last date to submit the proposals is as stated in para.1 at 15.00 hrs.
- The address for the purchase of Tender Documentation and for submitting the proposals is;

Ports and Railways Authority - Israel
 Purchasing Division
 74, Petach Tikva Rd.
 11th Floor, Room 1103,
 Tel Aviv 61201, Israel.
 Fax: 972-3-5616027

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PRIME **מדינות**
Mutual Fund for Foreign Residents

Date: 5.9.96
 Purchase Price: 110.69
 Redemption Price: 109.24

מדינות **מדינות**
Mutual Fund for Foreign Residents

Date: 5.9.96
 Purchase Price: 151.05
 Redemption Price: 148.80

מדינות **מדינות**
Mutual Fund for Foreign Residents

Date: 5.9.96
 Purchase Price: 151.05
 Redemption Price: 148.80

ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS

Patrah (foreign currency deposit rates) (29.7.96)

Currency (deposit for)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar (\$250,000)	4.750	4.875	5.375
Pound sterling (£100,000)	3.575	2.900	2.125
German mark (DM 200,000)	1.750	1.875	4.125
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	1.900	1.125	2.900
Yen (10 million yen)			

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (6.9.96)

CURRENCY AND TRANSFERS	BANKNOTES		Rep. Rate
	Buy	Sell	
Currency basket	3.5114	3.9881	3.5430
U.S. dollar	3.1183	3.1697	3.1470
German mark	2.1010	2.1349	2.1205
Pound sterling	4.8871	4.8680	4.80
French franc	0.5139	0.5239	0.54
Japanese yen (100)	2.8527	2.8527	0.6197
Dutch florin	1.8742	1.8045	1.84
Swiss franc	2.5254	2.5271	2.54
Austrian schilling	0.4688	0.4775	0.46
Swedish krona	0.4875	0.4954	0.47
Norwegian krona	0.5443	0.5531	0.53
Danish krona	0.6821	0.7048	0.68
Finland mark	2.2719	2.2088	0.72
Canadian dollar	2.2191	2.2191	2.23
Australian dollar	2.4791	2.4791	2.43
S. African rand	0.8920	1.0388	1.00
Belgian franc (10)	1.0203	0.7032	0.71
Austrian schilling (10)	2.9857	3.0339	1.02
Italian lira (1000)	2.0656	2.0990	2.03
Jordanian dinar	4.3400	4.6300	3.08
Egyptian pound	0.8500	0.8500	4.34
ECU	3.9670	4.0210	0.96
Irish punt	5.0855	5.1473	4.97
Spanish peseta (100)	2.4889	2.5271	2.44

*These rates vary according to bank. **Bank of Israel.
 SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

סניף מרכזי

EU condemns US sanctions against Cuba

Retaliation delayed until after American elections

TRALEE, Ireland (Reuters) - The European Union complained yesterday that US laws punishing Cuba, Iran and Libya would hit EU business but said retaliation was unlikely until after the American presidential elections in November.

"We repeat our absolute opposition to legislation with extra-territorial effects and our determination to protect the European Union," Irish Foreign Minister Dick Spring said at the end of a two-day informal meeting of EU Foreign Ministers.

But Spring and EU Commission President Jacques Santer said EU retaliation, including an appeal to the World Trade Organization, was unlikely until after the November polls.

The delay gave Washington

some breathing space in a dispute which has strained EU-US relations and raised the prospect of a transatlantic trade war because of Washington's determination to punish its long-time foes.

Spring said the EU would raise the dispute with Washington "at every opportunity" but expressed the hope it would not sour its long-term relations with the US.

"We all know that our relationship [with the US] is far bigger, far more substantial and important than these current difficulties," he said.

EU states are furious that US legislation to punish the three countries could ensnare European companies which is in violation of the principles of free trade to which both the US and EU are committed.

The D'Amato act was framed by Washington to punish Iran and Libya's alleged support for terrorism while the Helms-Burton legislation has been sharpened to put pressure on Cuban strongman Fidel Castro to democratize his country.

D'Amato will impose sanctions on companies investing more than \$40 million a year in the oil sectors of Iran and Libya, who depend upon their petroleum exports for most of their foreign trade and exchange.

Helms-Burton allows US citizens to file suits against firms which use properties confiscated by Castro.

EU states back the democratization of Cuba and the fight against terrorism but question Washington's choice of weapons

against the three states.

Spring said "nothing should distract us from our commitment to foster democracy in Cuba or combat terrorism wherever it is in the world."

Last week he held talks with Stuart Eizenstat, President Bill Clinton's envoy charged with explaining the reasons and scope of the Helms-Burton legislation to skeptical EU states.

EU ministers led no doubt about the depth of their bitterness about the sanctions, which would impose US legislation far beyond its borders.

"The EU is entitled to take appropriate initiatives to counter the two pieces of legislation, whose unilateral nature we cannot accept," said French Foreign Minister Hervé Charette.

Optimism on provident funds boosts shares

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET

ROBERT DANIEL



STOCK indexes advanced about one percent yesterday, as investors expressed optimism that the provident funds' redemption problem had passed, lifting bond prices and stocks.

Stocks were led by Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd., telecommunications provider Bezeq, American Israeli Paper Mills Ltd., Israel Land Development Co., and Klal Industries Ltd.

They were hurt by a 9.25 percent drop in shares of Africa-Israel Investments Ltd. "Right now, it seems the worst" of the provident funds' difficulties "happened in August," according

to Amnon Heifetz, general manager of Calil, the portfolio management subsidiary of Israel General Bank.

"Prices of bonds have been going up for two weeks. It seems that they are taking stocks" with them, he said.

The Two-Sided Index rose 1.06% to 188.81, while the Maof Index climbed 0.92% to 198.40. Teva was the most active issue, rising 2.5% to NIS5.3 million worth of shares traded.

Across the exchange, NIS72.5m. worth of shares traded, 8.8% more than this month's average of NIS63.3m. (Bloomberg)

Precious metal futures end weaker

PRECIOUS metals futures ended mostly weaker, barring a modest uptick in palladium, at the final bell in the New York pits on Friday.

December silver futures led the complex lower, with technically inspired fund selling pressuring the market.

With little on the fundamental front affecting gold prices near term, some traders say silver's course will continue to lead the complex.

Modest producer selling was noted in the gold market.

Looking ahead, gold traders will be looking toward the early October World Bank/International Monetary Fund (IMF) meeting in Washington DC.

The subject of concern is the potential for IMF sales of a portion of its gold reserves to raise needed cash for aid to poor countries.

There is little on the fundamental front affecting platinum and palladium, with no major production or political situations in either Russia or South Africa.

The NYMEX announced that margins on COMEX gold futures contracts will be decreased.

The margins will be lowered to \$750 for clearing members, members and hedgers and to \$1,013 for speculators.

October gold futures closed down 70 cents to \$386.00; December silver ended down 3.5 cents to \$5.1580 and October platinum was down 40 cents to \$395.90.

Grain futures at the Chicago Board of Trade ended mostly lower, with corn prices settling at four-week lows amid improving hopes for this year's crop and concerns over foreign demand.

Corn's weakness stemmed partly from forecasts for continued crop-favorable conditions in the Midwestern US.

Temperatures around the Midwest are expected to remain generally warm through the end of this week, which should help enhance crop development and bring it closer to maturity.

No threat of frost is foreseen through mid-September.

Also, forecasters see better prospects for moisture in the eastern half of the Corn Belt due to the activity of Hurricane Fran, which moved over the Carolinas early Friday.

Wheat futures closed weaker, with deferreds taking the hardest losses on expectations of a bigger supply of wheat coming from other countries as a long-term bearish fundamental.

December corn closed down 2.25 cents per bushel at \$3.3250 and December wheat was down 3.50 cents at \$4.4250 per bushel. Soybean futures closed higher, with September closing sharply higher and leading the day's gains in a late rally, traders said.

The market saw relatively volatile trading, especially in the morning, when the market opened weaker, surged on fund buying and then fell back to its lows.

Forecasters are calling for a cooler start to this week, but how cool is unknown.

The forecasts were deemed friendly, even though the cool outlook was suggested earlier last week on long-range forecasts. The November soybean futures contract closed at \$8.00, up 4.25 cents. December cotton futures closed firmer in a subdued session within a fairly narrow range, sources said, with that month's contract closing 54 points higher to 74.18 cents.

December coffee futures settled higher on the day on late buying by commercial trade and funds, which had followed fund selling and triggered sell stops, sources said.

The December contract settled 130 points higher at \$1.1290. December cocoa futures settled higher on the day on late speculation, fund and local buying, which followed early selling by commercial traders, sources said.

Cocoa's late strength may have been spurred by a bullish Ivorian report, an analyst added.

The December cocoa futures contract settled \$18 higher at \$1.373.

Courtesy of Michael Ziebler, omnistock Trading Ltd.

200,000 trade unionists protest German plans to trim welfare spending

BONN (Reuters) - Germany's widely admired "social consensus" faced greater strain yesterday after over 200,000 trade union workers demonstrated against government plans to trim generous welfare spending.

The 240,000 trade union workers who marched through the center of six major German cities on Saturday were sending a clear message to parliament that the government's attempts to erode workers' rights will be met by stiff resistance.

The demonstrations in Berlin, Hamburg, Stuttgart, Dortmund, Leipzig and Ludwigshafen were organized by the German Trade Union Federation (DGB) and followed a July rally in Bonn that brought 350,000 protesters flocking to the city center.

"The social conflicts will escalate if the government and employers stick to their confrontation course," said Klaus Zwickel, head of the powerful IG Metall metalworkers union, at the rally in Stuttgart, attended by 50,000.

"The government's policies will make the poor poorer and the rich richer," Zwickel added. "They are taking aim at the pensioners, at the infirm, at the unemployed, at women and families. It is unfair to everyone except the privileged."

A long-running battle pitting powerful labor unions against the government and employers will come to a showdown on Friday when parliament votes on Chancellor Helmut Kohl's controversial austerity package that would whittle away at worker rights.

That explosive vote on the austerity measures will be preceded by separate heated debate after Finance Minister Theo Waigel presents a draft of the 1997 budget on Tuesday that will call for further cuts in spending next year.

Unions are promising a "hot autumn" of labor unrest if the government succeeds with the legislation that would for the first time trim sick pay benefits, raise retirement ages and make it easier for firms to sack workers.

The government says the measures are designed to reduce the country's 10 percent unemployment rate and stop companies from exporting thousands of jobs abroad each year to escape the high labor costs.

The chancellor's center-right coalition holds a slim four-seat majority in the 672-seat Bundestag, or lower house, and can spare no votes on Friday.

"Four million unemployed represent an urgent warning that the government's growth and employment program now needs to be

quickly implemented," said Chancellery Minister Friedrich Bohl.

"The program will boost growth, create new jobs, and reduce public deficits," Bohl added.

Germany's successful post-war "social consensus" linking government, unions and employers, has helped give the country Europe's most powerful economy in past decades.

In exchange for job security and an extensive social welfare network, workers have rarely gone on strike and settled for moderate pay rises.

They generally have six weeks' paid annual leave, call in sick an average of four weeks per year and can almost never be fired.

But the broad cooperation alliance has become frayed in recent years as the country has struggled under the double blow of increased global competition and the high costs of financing the reconstruction of formerly communist East Germany.

Industry leaders, who have been shifting thousands of jobs overseas in recent years, complain that Germany has the most comprehensive social network in the world, devoting one third of its total economic output to social spending.

TEL AVIV STOCKS

Multi-sided trading

Table listing various stock indices and prices including Commercial Banks, Industrials, Mortgage Banks & Finance, Financial Institutions, Insurance, Trade & Services, and Property, Building & Agriculture.

Two-sided trading

Table listing individual stock prices and volumes under the heading 'MORNING'.

S. Korea threatens to boycott North's investment forum

SEOUL (Reuters) - Fledgling economic ties between North and South Korea were thrown into uncertainty yesterday after Seoul threatened to boycott an investment forum in the North in a row over invitations.

Seoul feels snubbed by Pyongyang's apparent decision to exclude some South Koreans who applied to attend the UN-backed September 13-15 forum in the Rajin-Sonbong investment zone.

A spokesman for Seoul's National Unification Ministry said unless Pyongyang opened its doors to all South Korean business executives, government officials and journalists who applied, nobody would be going.

"Unless they allow in all of our applicants, we will send nobody," he said. Later, a Unification Ministry statement said Seoul had demanded North Korea accept all 53 applications in a message delivered through the United Nations Industrial Development Program, one of the sponsors of the forum along with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization.

North Korea handed the South only two invitations. Local media reports said Pyongyang had rejected the journalists and officials who wanted to travel to the zone on the border of China and Russia.

Seoul officials say North Korea is dangling 101 industrial projects in the zone and hoping they will attract \$800 million.

Among them are a semiconductor plant, an oil refinery, naphtha cracker and smaller plants making everything from glass to furniture and toys.

Rajin-Sonbong is the only foreign investment window of its kind in North Korea and was set up by the late Great Leader Kim Il-sung as a tentative experiment in capitalism.

However, so far Pyongyang has

made only half-hearted efforts to develop the area into a Chinese-style special economic zone.

Now suffering crippling shortages of food and fuel, and desperate for hard currency, Pyongyang appears anxious to kick-start the scheme. The remote zone lacks basic port and transport infrastructure, and Pyongyang has no money to pay for it.

North Korea investment consultants say it was set up far from the capital Pyongyang so any unwelcome foreign influences could be contained.

Pyeongyang's hopes that it will get major investment from South Korea, China, Japan and Russia in large-scale industrial projects are unrealistic, they say.

South Korea's business conglomerates are just starting to dip their toes into North Korea, making small-scale investments mainly in processing plants. Large investment will have to wait for a political breakthrough between the two Koreas, still technically at war since their 1950-53 conflict.

South Korea excluded representatives of big conglomerates from their invitation wish-list, applying instead for approval for a selected group of smaller companies.

The only announced investment in the area is \$25m. from a Swedish investor, Arne Larsson, to extend a chemical plant and \$4.5m. by a Chinese shipping company, Yanbian Shipping Co, in a container crane.

Any boycott would be certain to further sour overall relations between North and South Korea that have plunged into crisis since Kim Il-sung died in 1994 and was succeeded by his son Kim Jong-il.

South Korea and the US are trying to entice Pyongyang to attend four-way talks, also including China, to try to establish a permanent peace in the area.

Greek PM sets tough fiscal targets

SALONIKA (Reuters) - Greek Prime Minister Costas Simitis set tough fiscal targets for 1997 over the weekend and said this month's general election was crucial for the country's future in the European Union.

In his first major campaign speech before the September 22 election, Simitis said he would work to cut inflation by at least two percent next year and boost growth by 3% so that Greece meets European Monetary Union (EMU) targets.

"Our country is facing a tough road ahead if it wants to achieve the targets set by the 15 EU members," he said.

"Our economy must progress fast to prevent its exclusion from the new European Union," he added at the opening of an international trade fair in this northern port city.

The Socialist Simitis, a staunchly pro-European pragmatist, said his government needed a public mandate to push ahead with spending cuts, privatizations and a radical restructuring of the public sector.

"It is not enough to move at our own pace when the others move faster," he said. "We are doing better but we still have many problems with huge state debts, along with the need to cut inflation and become competitive."

Greece, the worst EU economic performer, is plagued by high inflation running at an annual

8.5% year-on-year in August and a budget deficit of 9% of GDP last year.

Simitis predicted that average inflation in 1996 would be 8.2% and the deficit would drop to 7.6% of GDP at the end of the year and to 4.2% in 1997.

The EMU target is for the deficit to drop to 3% of GDP and inflation to be cut to about two points above the average inflation of the three best performing EU members.

Simitis has been fighting a tough campaign against conservative opposition party leader Mitsotakis Evert, who is promising low-income voters and farmers bold increases in salaries, pensions and services after a decade of austerity.

His finance minister, Alexandros Papadopoulos, is in the final stages of putting together next year's budget, which includes cuts of \$1.2 billion in state spending and the restructuring of at least 10 major public companies.

A poll in the Athens area this week by the private Flash radio showed Simitis enjoying an approval rating of 58.1% to 31.9% scored by Evert.

But poll analysts said Athens popularity ratings did not necessarily translate into votes and that a clear indication of where the electorate is going would be out next week with the first nationwide surveys.

DRIVE CAREFULLY advertisement with a car illustration.

ISRAEL DISCOUNT BANK advertisement.

Graf wins fifth US Open

NEW YORK (Reuters) - Top seed Steffi Graf saved her best for last, powering her way to an emphatic 7-5, 6-4 victory over second seed Monica Seles to claim her fifth US Open title yesterday.

Steffi Graf won her fifth US Open title yesterday, defeating Monica Seles in a dramatic final. Graf's victory was a testament to her resilience and skill on the tennis court.

Sampras-Ivanisevic: On Saturday, Pete Sampras sprung back from his gut-wrenching victory two days ago to beat Goran Ivanisevic in a booming service battle that set up a showdown in the final against Michael Chang.

Tyson 'fixes' Seldon in first round

LAS VEGAS (AP) - Bruce Seldon called Mike Tyson a destroyer. The fans called the fight a fix. "Fix! Fix!" the ugliest word in boxing, resounded through the MGM Grand Garden after Tyson knocked Seldon down twice and stopped him in 109 seconds Saturday night to win the World Boxing Association heavyweight championship.

thought it was a slip. "I went to wave it (a knockdown) off, and I looked at Bruce again and the fighter seemed dazed and hurt, so I had to pick up the count," Steele said.

Zafirir Holon coach quits over funds

THE new soccer season is just two rounds old but it has already claimed its first casualty in the shape of Zafirir Holon coach Elisha Levy.

Canada advances to hockey finals

PHILADELPHIA (AP) - Brendan Shanahan scored with 12.5 seconds left in the second overtime as Canada recovered after blowing a two-goal lead in the third period for 3-2 victory over Sweden in the semifinals of the World Cup of Hockey tournament.

Joseph was Canada's best player through the first three periods, making 31 saves while his team was being outshot 33-23. He was especially good in the first period when the Swedes stormed the net and held a 14-5 advantage in shots.

Mets' Hundley ties HR record for catchers

ATLANTA (AP) - Todd Hundley hit his 40th home run, tying Roy Campanella's major league record for homers by a catcher, and the New York Mets

matched Campanella's 40 in 1953 with the Brooklyn Dodgers. It also broke Darryl Strawberry's team record set in 1987 and 1988.

SCOREBOARD

Table with columns for NFL, Baseball, Cricket, and Grand Prix results. Includes scores for Pittsburgh, Baltimore, Carolina, etc.

CLASSIFIEDS

Real estate listings including 'habitat REAL ESTATE' and 'habitat rentals'. Features various property descriptions and contact information.

Real estate listings including 'RAVANANA RENTAL' and 'RAVANANA SALE'. Features property details and contact information.

Job openings and services including 'SITUATIONS VACANT', 'BUSINESS OFFERS', and 'HOUSEHOLD HELP'. Lists various professional and domestic opportunities.

Advertisements for 'PERSONALS', 'MATRIMONIALS', and 'RENTALS'. Includes personal notices and rental listings.

Large advertisement for 'THE ISRAEL CONNECTION' featuring a globe and text: 'SEND A PERSONAL GREETING, MESSAGE OR SINGLES AD throughout the world via THE ISRAEL CONNECTION'.

Handwritten text in a box: '150 אלון הנגב'.

PM suggests limiting powers of High Court

Begin condemns proposal

EVELYN GORDON

PRIME Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's suggestion that the powers of the Supreme Court, when sitting as the High Court of Justice, be clearly defined and delimited by legislation aroused a storm of protest from across the political spectrum yesterday.

In an interview with *Ma'ariv* that appeared yesterday morning, Netanyahu said he was currently consulting with legal experts, rabbis and academics regarding the question of how authority should be divided between the legislature and the judiciary.

"This is a legitimate question," he said. "There is no question here of the rule of law, but of the division of authority between the judicial and legislative branches... This is a difficult and fundamental question."

In a statement issued yesterday, Netanyahu reiterated that he is not trying to undermine the independence of the judiciary, but rather to clearly define the respective powers of the courts and the Knesset via legislation. The question of the proper division of authority between these two bodies has been a hot topic of debate in all the world's democracies for many years, the statement stressed, adding that the prime minister has not yet formulated his own opinion on the matter.

However, these statements were largely received as an attempt to undermine the court's authority. "The Supreme Court is the citadel for upholding the law and protecting human rights in Israel," said Science and Technology Minister Ze'ev Begin in a statement. "We must not impinge on its powers or reduce its sphere of activity."

Law professor and MK Amnon Rubinstein (Meretz) said there was no need to delimit the respective powers of court and Knesset by legislation, as they are already defined in existing law. Therefore,

he said, the only way to interpret Netanyahu's suggestion is as an attempt to limit the court's powers. Coming against the background of the recent haredi attacks on the court, he added, "these remarks of the prime minister's are damaging and irresponsible."

MK Dalia Itzik, head of Labor's response team, also accused the prime minister of trying to sabotage the state's democratic character and of giving legitimacy to those who defy the court's authority.

The Movement for Quality Government in Israel and the Association for Civil Rights in Israel (ACRI) also joined the ranks of the protesters, charging that the attempt to delimit the court's powers would endanger the rule of law.

"Any attempt to undermine the Supreme Court and its justices, or to 'delimit' the court, are liable to result in severe damage to the human rights of all Israeli citizens," ACRI added in its press statement.

The only sector of the public to openly support Netanyahu was the religious community. Transport Minister Yitzhak Levy (National Religious Party), for instance, stressed that the question of what type of judicial system Israel should have was a legitimate one. America and Western Europe, though both democracies, assign very different roles to their Supreme Courts, he said in an interview with Channel 1, and it is time Israel gave serious thought to which model it wants to follow.

"We have two different systems here, and the debate is legitimate," he said. "I don't accept the fact that every time we embark on a legitimate debate - even if it is on the question of the authority of the [Supreme] Court - it is immediately dismissed as... [an expression of] contempt for the court."

Law professor calls PM's High Court remark a blunder

DAN IZENBERG

MANY people - not only among the right-wing or Orthodox communities - believe there is a need to reconsider Supreme Court-Knesset relations, according to Prof. Claude Klein, professor of law at the Hebrew University.

Nevertheless, he said Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's statement, quoted in *Ma'ariv*, that the Supreme Court's areas of jurisdiction when it sits as the High Court of Justice may have to be delimited was a blunder, which he attributed to Netanyahu's "greenness in the job."

"In the current atmosphere, it is the last thing Netanyahu should have said," said Klein. "There have been some very harsh attacks against the Supreme Court recently. His comments are like pouring oil on a fire."

According to Klein, many people might think the remark was inspired by the High Court's rulings on Jerusalem's Rehov Bar-Ilan, since that is the issue which inspired the recent attacks on Supreme Court President Aharon Barak.

However, the question of closing Rehov Bar-Ilan is a purely administrative issue and therefore one which the court is obliged to deal with according to Basic Law: The Judiciary, Section 15 (c) and (d).

There is also the question of the relationship between the High Court and the religious courts. Although the issue hasn't come up of late, many in the Orthodox community believe the court has exceeded its authority by overruling religious courts. Here too,



A resident of Kibbutz Kiryat Anavim shows President Ezer Weizman some of the damage caused by Friday's fire. (Isaac Hazari)

Report exonerates Fire Dep't

BILL HUTMAN

THE Fire Department was cleared of allegations it was incompetent in battling Friday's Jerusalem Corridor blaze in an internal review carried out by the Fire and Rescue Commission and accepted yesterday by Interior Minister Eli Suissa.

Suissa rejected calls for a formal, independent, investigation, and said the major problem was that the previous government failed to implement the recommendations of the investigation into last year's Jerusalem Corridor blaze.

Suissa said the pine trees that had been planted in the area had been a major factor in the fire spreading quickly, and called on the Jewish National Fund to plant less flammable trees when it redevelops the area.

The weak water lines in the area also made it difficult to contain the fire, according to Suissa, who received the internal inquiry from Fire and Rescue Commissioner Uri Manos.

Some 2,000 dunnams of forest and dozens of buildings in Kibbutz Kiryat Anavim and Moshav Beit Nekofa were destroyed or damaged in the blaze, which police say started when children in nearby Abu Ghosh set a fire in a village trash dump.

The JNF, however, claimed yesterday that its investigation showed the fire started when dry branches were set alight near the offices of the Abu Ghosh Local Council, and did not originate at the garbage dump. The JNF could not say whether the branches were set afire by arsonists or for some other reason.

Police, however, stood by their report, saying it had been conducted by police experts.

The Fire and Rescue Commission inquiry confirmed what had already been reported - that the initial response was relatively quick, but because of a lack of manpower and equipment the response was also inadequate.

Suissa, rejecting calls for an independent investigation, instead chose to set up a committee to ensure that the recommendations of the Lapidot Committee that investigated last year's Jerusalem Corridor blaze would finally be implemented.

The committee, to be chaired by Yigal Shahar, head of the ministry's northern district, was given until September 19 to present its conclusions and recommendations to Suissa.

"The initial reaction of sending a team to Abu

Ghosh appears reasonable, in light of the number of firefighters on duty, and other activity that was going on at the time," the inquiry report stated.

It found that the first and second teams arrived in "reasonable" time, and that additional teams were called in quickly. This, despite the fact that the inquiry also found that two hours after the blaze began, only two fire trucks were at the scene, and helicopters and planes called in to fight the fire did not arrive for another hour.

The conclusion of the report emphasized that "budget constraints put limitations on the operations and readiness of the Beit Shemesh fire station," the major one in the area.

President Ezer Weizman, who visited Kiryat Anavim yesterday to see the damage firsthand, suggested the special firefighting planes be purchased. He said experts had been recommending this for a long time, and that he would see if he could use his influence to make sure this was done.

Meanwhile, the kibbutz guest house will reopen tomorrow, even though almost half its rooms were damaged in the blaze.

Item contributed to this report

Mandela hopes to persuade South African Jews to return home

DAVID MAKOVSKY

DURING his planned visit here in November, President Nelson Mandela would like to meet with as many South African Jews as possible and encourage them to return and invest in the country, Mandela's aides told Israeli officials recently.

Officials say Mandela would like to meet with a "stadium-full" of South African immigrants and urge them to return. However, it is unlikely that Israel will accommodate such a request.

Mandela is expected to visit Israel, the Palestinian autonomous areas and Jordan from November 6-12. It is the third time a Mandela visit has been scheduled.

A trip planned for February 1994 was canceled when the Oslo timetable ran behind schedule. Mandela only wanted to visit Israel after the IDF had completed its withdrawal from Gaza and Jericho.

Mandela also scheduled a trip for last month, but canceled, ostensibly on doctor's orders.

During his trip, Mandela will meet with senior Israeli and Palestinian officials. He will also address the Knesset. Three different universities here have already offered him honorary degrees, officials said.

Winning cards

In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance draw, the winning cards were the 10 of spades, seven of hearts, 10 of diamonds, and nine of clubs.

Islamic unity rally low key and sparsely attended

DOUGLAS DAVIS
LONDON

ISLAMIC extremists, whose supporters were almost outnumbered by British police, delivered a relatively mild message of Islamic unity at their "Rally for Revival" in London's Hyde Park yesterday.

Earlier, the extremist al-Muhajiroun movement abandoned plans for a mass rally at the 12,000-seat London Arena, ostensibly because it could not afford the additional security it was told would be necessary to deter opposition by Jewish and homosexual groups.

However, sources believe the last-minute change was caused by poor ticket sales.

Rally organizer Sheikh Omar Bakri Mohammed, head of al-Muhajiroun and an outspoken Hamas supporter, had resisted

powerful political pressure to cancel the event.

Bakri, a Syrian exile who says he regards Iran as reactionary and Israel as a "criminal state" had intended to use the Rally for Revival to incite revolt against Arab regimes and press his vision for a global Islamic state.

The British government, which had received messages of alarm from Jewish community representatives, as well as from senior Israeli, Egyptian and Algerian officials, was clearly uneasy at providing a platform for the rally.

However, spokesmen said the government was unable to halt the event unless speakers broke the law by inciting racial hatred or terrorism.

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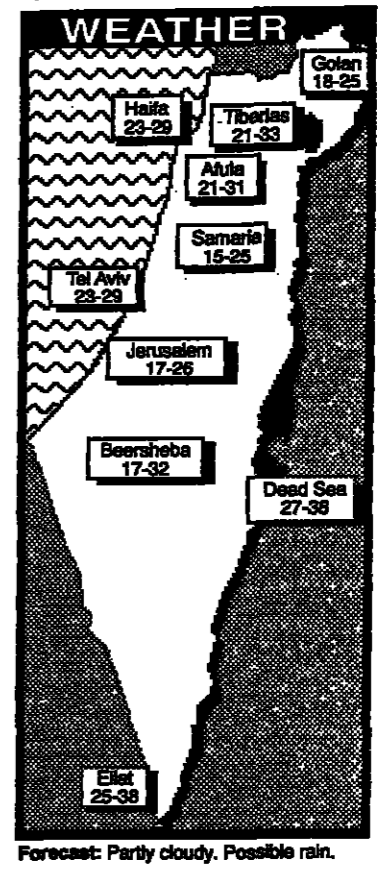
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Helsinki	07	41	18	64	partly
Hong Kong	27	43	14	57	cloudy
Jakarta	27	81	21	70	clear
London	13	55	20	68	partly
Los Angeles	21	70	22	80	clear
Moscow	13	55	27	81	partly
New York	22	72	26	82	partly
Paris	11	62	21	70	clear
Rome	13	55	14	57	clear
Stockholm	08	48	14	57	cloudy
Sydney	21	70	28	82	clear
Tel Aviv	21	70	28	82	clear
Tokyo	19	84	18	68	rain
Zurich	08	41	14	57	partly

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The movement is mounting another campaign:

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